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Ottawa  
Jewish

# bulletin



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From *Dance, Sing, Remember / A Celebration of Jewish Holidays*  
Courtesy Hillel Academy Library

Happy Chanukah  
Greetings to all!

## National Shabbat of Solidarity with Israel on December 23

Communities across North America, in cooperation with their local synagogues, are marking the Shabbat of Chanukah as a time to commemorate our solidarity with the people of Israel and to reaffirm our commitment to Jerusalem as the historic and eternal capital of the Jewish State.

"At this critical time," says Rabbi Reuven Bulka of Machzikei Hadas Con-

gregation, "when our history as well as our homeland are under siege, it is appropriate, if not imperative, that we take Shabbat Chanukah, December 23, to focus on the centrality of Jerusalem in our history."

"Afterall, the Chanukah story is really the chronicle of our ancestors ready to risk their lives against great odds to be able to worship in the Bet Hamikdash in

Jerusalem. We prevailed then, and with all of us standing together, we will prevail now."

On this Shabbat, when we celebrate the victory of the Maccabees and the restoration of Jewish rights and worship in the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, Ottawa's Rahnin Committee urges all community Jews to attend services and express their support.

## ScotiaMcLeod renews Golf Tournament sponsorship

In what has now become an annual tradition, ScotiaMcLeod has once again agreed to be a major sponsor of the 2001 UJA Golf Tournament to take place on July 29.

Tournament Co-Chairs, Charles and Cindy Schachnow, Arthur and Lori Loeb, and Ron and Ellen Cheney, welcomed the announcement.

"Not only do they con-

tribute financially, but many of the ScotiaMcLeod representatives get personally involved by playing in the Golf Tournament," they said.

See story page 6.



### NACO on tour

Dr. David Finestone (right) and his wife Josie accompanied the National Arts Centre Orchestra and leader Pinchas Zukerman on their recent three-week international tour. Story on page 7.

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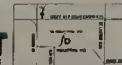
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## COMMENTARY

# When Israel is threatened, we are all threatened



## VAAD Report

Stephen Greenberg  
President, Vaad Ha'Ir

In mid-November the United Jewish Communities held its Annual General Assembly (GA). Five thousand delegates from around the world gathered in Chicago for a three day conference including a delegation of 12 people from Ottawa. While the theme of the conference was *lech lecha*, go forth, the unofficial themes were solidarity with Israel and a re-examination of Israel-Diaspora relations.

For the past 20 years, but particularly since the signing of the Oslo Peace Accord, Jewish communities in North America have been grappling with the nature of our changing relationship with Israel. As Israel prospered economically and made progress towards peace with its neighbours, Jews on both sides of the ocean became complacent about the importance of Israel-Diaspora relations.

Though it was never the official position of the govern-

ment, several prominent Israelis suggested that Israel no longer needed North America Jewry's charity. In North America, interest in Israel based causes waned as donors believed that investing in Jewish continuity at home was paramount and that we had already done enough for Israel. This decline in support for overseas funding was most acute in a younger generation of Jews who did not experience the 1948 or 1967 wars as adults.

The current crisis in Israel demonstrated that we had become too complacent. Israel now needs strong support from the Diaspora more than ever. At the GA, Prime Minister Ehud Barak told the delegates that one of the lessons of the past few months is that the only source of international support Israel could consistently count on was from world Jewry. Indeed, the Canadian government's recent support of the UN resolution condemning Israel demonstrates just how fickle and ephemeral support of Israel can be.

Israel clearly needs Jewish communities for support in the public relations battle that has become central to the current Middle East crisis. Israel's government has been unable to effectively articulate its messages about the current conflict and has been losing the public relations battle. All Israeli officials now believe Jewish communities around the world can be of great assistance in defending the interest of Israel in the

media and lobbying their respective governments.

Also, Israel very much continues to need our financial support - not to directly pay for the increased cost of security but to continue to assist in the resettlement and absorption of Jews from the Former Soviet Union. But Israel needs more than our financial support and public relations assistance; it needs support on the ground. Israel needs us to come and visit and demonstrate that we are not fair-weather tourists. To that end sending an Ottawa mission to Israel in the near future will be one of the Vaad's highest priorities.

We have all been shocked and scared by the recent events in the Middle East and the increase in overt anti-Semitic incidents here at home. Unsurprisingly, our feelings are shared by other Jewish communities in North America and it was very encouraging at the GA to see the solidarity that Jews around the world feel for Israel at this time of crisis. When things calm down, as they hopefully will, we cannot forget this lesson. We must never allow ourselves to become complacent about Israel and its vital importance for a secure and dynamic Jewish life in North America. We must always remember that when Israel is threatened we are all threatened.

## Remember what Chanukah celebrates

There is a story written by Leonard Fein, founder of *Moment* magazine, which I read when events in the Middle East devolve into futile violence and unnecessary bloodshed. The story was first published during the war in Lebanon. I want to share bits of it with you, not simply because of recent events in Eretz Yisrael, but because Chanukah begins shortly. The confluence of events in the same land where the story took place at the same moment that we celebrate historic events seems to be more than a mere coincidence.

"It was 1860, or maybe 1861, in Minsk, or possibly Pinsk. Wherever, whenever, there were a dozen Jews who used to get together every Tuesday evening for some good talk.

"What did the Jews talk about? Why, about what it would be like one day - what, that is, Jerusalem would be like. In exquisite detail, they would imagine Jerusalem's climate and its curriculum, its cuisine and its culture ...

"Every few months Berl would say: 'Can't we change the topic. I mean if we are really interested in what it's like in Jerusalem, why don't we pack up and go? If we like it we'll stay. And if we don't like it, we'll also stay, and make it into something we like'. To which the others would inevitably respond: 'Don't be a fool. Don't you realize how much easier, safer it is to sit in Minsk or Pinsk and talk about what it might be like than confront the reality.'

"One Tuesday evening they invited one of their non-Jewish friends to join them. At the end of a long evening of discussion their friend thanked them for the conversation and they requested his permission to ask a question. Upon receiving permission they asked: 'What do people like you think of people like us.' Their friend answered: 'You are a very wonderful people, passionate, generous, literate. I have only one problem with you. There is one aspect of Jewish behavior that annoys us. You people seem to believe that you are morally superior to everyone else.'

"The Jews were not shocked by his accusation; they did not deny his charge. They offered the following response: 'We can't explain the whole etiology of our sense of moral superiority. We'll explain it by way of a mashal, an exam-



## From the pulpit

Rabbi Steven Garten  
Temple Israel

ple. We do indeed think we are your moral betters, and the reason we do is we don't hunt.' Their guest laughed and yelled back at them: 'You silly people, of course you don't hunt! We don't permit you to own guns.'

"Whereupon everyone turned to Beryl and said: 'Tomorrow we pack, then go to Jerusalem, and there we shall prove that even with guns we will not become hunters.'"

This story has many levels of meaning, but primarily it is about how in our generation we have come to power in Israel and in North America, and about our response to that transforming change in the historic Jewish condition. Today, it is no longer our physical safety that is the principal item on the Jewish agenda (though we can hardly take our physical safety for granted); it is the question of whether, now that we have guns, we are on the way to becoming hunters; it is the question of what we do now that we have a choice, now that we have a measure of autonomy. Will we be who we have said we were and wanted to be?

Traditionally, Chanukah celebrates not a military victory, not an occasion of our being hunters, but a miracle. Although God may be present in all events, we sense His presence in only those events in which there is an element of awe, an element pointing to His hand. For the Jewish people, the significance of the victory of the few and the weak is that it raises our consciousness of God. In these very difficult times, when events seem to make calls for Jewish military action so easy, there may be a tendency to forget what Chanukah celebrates. We should be careful about describing what it is that we celebrate; it is the presence of the Divine not only in our lives but also in our history.



## HAPPY CHANUKAH

First Chanukah Light  
Thursday,  
December 21

Eighth Chanukah Light  
Thursday,  
December 28



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## YAD goes retro with Much Music 80s Video Dance Party



Thirty-something Suzie Epelbaum (pictured centre, photo top left) has a life that most of us think exists only on television. Suzie has worked for the past year as a ... day trader! "It is definitely a rush," Suzie says.

A friend suggested that she might want to get involved in YAD (Young Adults Division of UJA) as a way to meet people. She attended a meeting and was hooked. Before long, she was chairing the Much-Music event at HOOPS.

Because she is so isolated during the work-day, Suzie's volunteer activities are very important to her. "I have met a lot of people through YAD that I would never have met if I hadn't joined," she says. She believes in the importance of UJA and is happy to be contributing to its success. "I like to give back to the community," she says. "In Ottawa, because of the size of the community, you can really feel that your contribution makes a difference. The community does so much for so many people that I felt that I should become involved."

*In the next issue, UJA will profile more of its many hard-working volunteers.*



## UJA helps to provide Jewish education to every child

The second half of our series on Jewish education continues with a look at our area high schools. Even at this level, students are fortunate enough to have choices for the continuation of their Jewish education.

Jack Shapiro is the principal for Secular Studies at Machon Sarah High School and Ottawa Torah Institute.

"After spending many years in the public school system," he says, "I just can't believe the education these children are getting. With only two or three students in each class, we are able to give very intensive, personal

attention."

In spite of a very heavy Hebrew workload, the students develop good work habits and most graduate with extremely high marks.

Now in its sixth year, Yitzhak Rabin High School (YRHS) has grown to 42 students. Its graduates have been accepted into the top universities, many with full academic scholarships. In addition to a full range of high school subjects, the students participate in many "out of school" programs that enrich their studies. For example, to enhance their textbook learning, the students

will be visiting the criminal courts and meeting with a judge and lawyers who will explain the system to them.

A major part of the program is learning to give back to the community. YRHS students can be found at just about every community event, helping out wherever they can. They participated in the UJA Walkathon, volunteered at Hillel Lodge, were part of the Mitzvah Day – they go wherever they are needed. The school has also been selected by the Asper Foundation to represent Ottawa in Washington in May as part of a Holocaust edu-

cation program.

For those who are looking for a supplemental, evening high school experience, Akiva High School fits the bill. Classes are held one evening per week at the Jewish Community Campus and the school offers a wide array of both credit and non-credit high school level courses.

Our community values Jewish education and your UJA contributions make it possible. Every UJA dollar spent on education helps to finance our community's future and to maintain our Jewish identity. Our students thank you for your generosity!

## ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE

# Young actor is blessed with natural talent

By Cynthia Nyman Engel

The first time he saw a friend perform in a local theatre production, Gary Fine told his parents, "I could do that."

He not only could, he did. In fact, at the ripe old age of 13, Gary Fine is already a veteran of two Hollywood movies, two locally funded independent movies, and last year's Orpheus production of *Gypsy*. All accomplished without a single acting, singing or dancing lesson.

The Greenbank Middle School 8th grader is obviously blessed with that elusive quality: natural talent.

"He had a blast playing one of the young boys in the cast of *Gypsy*," says his mother, Julie Fine. "He came away so confident that I decided to call an agent friend of mine to see if there were any auditions in town. What I really wanted Gary to realize is just how tough it is to get a part."

What happened, of course, was that Gary got a part. In a Hollywood movie, no less. And then he got another part in yet another Hollywood movie.

Gary heeded a whole lot of juvenile hopefuls for the part of Young Bud in *One-Eyed King*, a film starring Billy Baldwin (who is, you betcha, one-third of the Alec/Billy/Stephen Baldwin brothers acting triumvirate). Then, even before the shooting of *One-Eyed King* got under way, he received a call to audition for the part of a mobster's son in *Protection*, starring other-brother, Stephen Baldwin, and Peter Gallagher. He got that part, too.

*One-Eyed King*, with Billy Baldwin, Dash Mihok, Armand Assante and Chazz Palminteri, was directed in Montreal by Bobby Morasco. "They're really nice people," says Gary. "In between takes on the set we sometimes throw a ball around or just talk."



Gary Fine (left) with actress Katie Griffin and actor Stephen Baldwin.

Montreal is also the location for Gary's second film, *Protection*.

"The *Protection* audition was called for 10 a.m. Friday, September 29, the morning of erev Rosh Hashanah," chuckles Julie. "We raced into Montreal, Gary did the audition, and we got back by

early afternoon so that I could finish cooking for Yom Tov."

In *Protection*, Gary plays a leading role as Stephen Baldwin and actress Katie Griffin's son. Another Ottawan was chosen to play the part of Peter Gallagher's son. Both boys are being tutored

on the set.

"ACTRA stipulates that actors under the age of 16 must have a legal guardian on the set at all times," explains Julie. "The children are tutored by teachers between make-up sessions, meal times and the blocking of scenes. I had to get Gary's school work from his teachers and it goes to the set with us every day."

Since Ottawa is within a certain radius of Montreal, Gary is considered a 'local' and therefore not eligible for paid overnight accommodation. During the shoots, Mom and son have been bunking in with a Montreal-based cousin while dad, Jeff, and Gary's older brother, Neil, 16, keep the home fires burning.

Gary copes beautifully with his hectic schedule. The month of June saw his graduation from Ottawa Modern Jewish School and the completion of the filming of the two local movies

in which he acted. On July 1, Gary celebrated his Bar Mitzvah then headed off to spend the summer with his buddies at Camp B'nai Brith. He returned home in August just in time to practice solos with the Agudath Israel Choir and perform them at High Holy Days services. September and October went by in a whirl of trips to Montreal for exciting days on movie sets.

Since being bitten by the acting bug, Gary is doing some thinking about his future. "I'd like to stay in this if I could," says the young thespian. "If I don't seem to be doing very well, I'd like to go in for architecture."

His advice to other young hopefuls: "If you like acting you should definitely go for it," he says. "You shouldn't be scared. You should tell yourself you're going to make it. You should be confident."

"And," Gary adds, "it's fun."

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## ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE

# Victory earns Noah Cantor his third Grey Cup ring

By Cynthia Nyman Engel

The B.C. Lions gave fans plenty to cheer about recently when the team roared to a 28-26 Grey Cup victory over the Montreal Alouettes in Calgary's McMahon Stadium.

With the B.C. Lions firmly in possession of the 2000 Grey Cup, Defensive Tackle Noah Cantor, Number 92, and his team-mates are looking forward to enjoying some well-deserved R & R.

"The best part about playing professional football is the six months off in the off-season," chuckles the B.C. Lions stalwart who sacked Montreal Alouettes' quarterback Anthony Calvillo on November 26.

Noah has been hanging his cleats in Vancouver since signing on with the

Western Conference team two years ago, in 1998.

"My contract with the Lions is up now but I hope to play football for a few more years," he says. "My first choice is to remain with the Lions but we'll have to see what the other offers are like.

"Working together with a group of guys toward one goal makes for some pretty good friends and some pretty close feelings," he says. "I'd like to keep playing ball for as long as I don't think of it as work."

The 29-year-old football player is no stranger to participating in the Grey Cup game: when the Toronto Argonauts claimed the coveted prize in 1996 and 1997, Argos player Noah Cantor played both defensive tackle and on special teams.

Noah traces his first

hands-on experience in Grey Cup competitions to Camp B'nai Brith's annual Grey Cup and Superbowl events.

From summer scrub games, he graduated to playing defensive end and right guard at Ashbury College. "That was the first time I played football in a uniform," he says. He loved the game and it loved him.

After completing high school, Noah attended St. Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he earned a BA and played defensive end on the university's football team.

In 1994, his graduating year, Noah got the call he'd been hoping for: the Argonauts' coach invited him to attend the team's training camp in Guelph.

"I was pretty thrilled to see for myself if I could

do it," he says. "After three weeks they picked the team. I was fortunate enough to make it. We didn't win the Grey Cup the first year I was with the Argos, but after a complete make over of the team, we won it the next two years in a row."

In 1998, Noah became a free agent and joined the B.C. Lions. His wife of one year, the former Donna Caplan, is very proud of her talented husband.

"I've watched Noah grow as a football player over the last six years," she says. "When they won I was very excited and very relieved. It was a very tight game at the end and I don't do well under pressure."

The B.C. Lions Number 92 is the son of Beverly and Dan Cantor.



Noah and Donna Cantor with the Grey Cup

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**Gludys Bodioff** on Jesse's Bar Mitzvah by Debbie, Norm and Vicky Ferkin.

**Doris Hoffman** on her birthday by Sandra, Eli, and Aaron Hoffman.

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**Rose and Chick Taylor** on the engagement of their son Steven to Audrey Arfi by Ron and Irene Stein; by Laura Penso; and by Sheila and Larry Hartman.

**Steven Taylor** on his engagement to Audrey Arfi by Laura Penso.

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**Syd Hartman** by Jerry and Lily Penso.

**Howard Goldberg** by Marion Silver, Alan Brass and family; and by Frances Greenblatt.

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**Judith Ain** by Miriam, Allan, Emma, Laura and Michael Sobel.

**Buddy Shatzat** by Miriam and Allan Sobel. **William Goldenberg** by Ron Stein.

**General:**

Wishing **Dr. Lorne Weiner** and family a happy New Year by Lois and Jerry Nudelmann.

Thinking of **Bernice Kerzner** and family on the unveiling of the monument for their husband and father by Marty, Ellen and Sharon Cardash.

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## Golf Tournament Team swings into action

**By Diane Koven**

With the first real signs that winter is upon us, the UJA Golf Tournament "Team" is swinging into action. Determined to "think green" in spite of the flecks of white falling all around them, Charles and Cindy Schnachniow, Arthur and Lori Loeb, and Ron and Ellen Cherney have been busily meeting and planning next summer's big event.

The Team has announced that ScotiaMcLeod has agreed to be a major sponsor of the 2001 UJA Golf Tournament. Kanata Branch Manager Joe Jeffries is looking forward to the company's active participation. "We have been a supporter of the UJA Golf Tournament for several years," he said. "We think that the UJA is a very worthwhile cause to support. We feel that the golf tournament is a well run, quality event that



ScotiaMcLeod's Kanata Branch Manager Joe Jeffries (left) is pictured with two of UJA's Golf Tournament Co-Chairs, Lori Loeb and Charles Schachnow.

we enjoy being involved in."

Jeffries participates in the tournament personally, as do many of the other reps at ScotiaMcLeod. "We have always had lots of fun and we look forward to it every year," he said.

The Team is busy planning their strategy and will have a regular column in the *Bulletin* leading up to the big event. In the coming

months, they will be updating all eager golfers and golfer wannabes on plans as they evolve, and will be sharing golf tips and golf humour.

They would like to leave you with a "golf thought" of the month: "If your divot continuously travels farther than your ball, consider reading as a pastime." (CPGA Golf Magazine, June 2000).

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## ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE

# A whole new meaning to "Is there a doctor in the house?"

By Diane Koven

In 1995, the National Arts Centre (NAC) Orchestra signed a contract requiring them to take a physician along when they travelled outside of Canada. Evelyn Greenberg was asked for a recommendation and suggested her physician, Dr. David Finestone. He and his wife, Josie, had been subscribers to the NAC orchestra series for many years and jumped at the chance to accompany the musicians on their three-week European tour.

"I didn't kill anyone," says David with a chuckle, "so they invited me back for the next tour." The timing of the recent tour was a bit difficult for several reasons. The first challenge was to find a suitable replacement for the busy family medicine practice. Once that was done, Josie could concentrate on solving her own work-related dilemma: as special assistant for the Regional Chair, Bob Chiarelli, she was also responsible for raising funds for the upcoming election campaign (Chiarelli was recently elected mayor of the soon-to-be amalgamated City of Ottawa) which was scheduled for right after the tour. She somehow managed to get everything organized beforehand and left on the tour with Chiarelli's blessing.

Leaving Canada the day

after Rosh Hashanah was hectic but exciting as the first stop was Israel. The tour was billed as a "first ever" for the NAC Orchestra: the first time a Canadian orchestra had performed in the Middle East and the first time an orchestra with a Jewish/Israeli conductor was to perform in Jordan. Unfortunately, it was not to be.

"The political situation took a turn for the worse as soon as we arrived," said David. "That created tremendous difficulties for the tour management. There had been a lot of educational events planned in the West Bank which had to be cancelled, much to Pinchas Zukerman's great disappointment. Also, what was to be one of the highlights of the tour, several years in the planning, was the Jordanian concert. The Canadian embassy made it clear that it was not safe and we had to cancel."

The orchestra did spend six days in Israel, playing two sold-out concerts. "When the orchestra played O Canada and Hatikva in the Mann Auditorium," said David, "it was very, very moving."

From Israel, the tour went to Italy where the Finestones spent a very interesting Yom Kippur. "We went to an 1850 Sephardic synagogue in Flo-

rence," said Josie, "which was saved during the War only because the Germans used it as a garage for their vehicles." They found the service fascinating, yet very different from what they are accustomed to - it was Sephardic, first of all and the sermon was given in Italian! By coincidence, the Finestones were not totally alone on the other side of the world. Fellow Ottawans Trudy and Sheldon Wiseman happened to be in Florence at the same time and the two couples attended services together.

"The frenetic pace took over," says Josie, "and we spent the next seven days touring seven cities in Germany, three days in Switzerland (with only one day off in Locarno); Paris, Birmingham, Glasgow. For 26 days, they travelled, the musicians played, and David dispensed various forms of relief.

"Part of my responsibility was to be at all the concerts," he said, "so I learned to detect when the musicians were really 'on'. One of the highlights for me was the Birmingham concert, in one of the finest concert halls in the world. It was a totally magic performance.

"I would have a clinic at each concert. Before the concert, I would dispense medications such as cough medi-

(Continued on page 8)

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Jacie Levinson on his special birthday by Laya and Sol Shabinsky.

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Sheryl Kardish on her special birthday by Eric Weiner, Arlene Godfrey, Melissa and Laura.

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Rabbi Mitchell Cohen by Brenda, Nathan, Jesse and Daniel Levine.

Solly Patrontasch by Stephen and Debi Schneiderman.

Malcolm and Vera Glube on the birth of their grandson by the Leith family.

Laya and Sol Shabinsky on their anniversary by Syrrille and Paul Rosman; and by Elissa, Avraham, Michally and Daniel Iny.

Patricia Haas and Food Services staff by Lillian and Morris Kimmel.

Shirley Kardish by David, Sammy and Tova Lieff.

Leah and Ken Miller on their daughter's engagement by Arnie and Sarah Swedler; and by Phil and Norma Lazear.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Greenspoon by Stephen and Debi Schneiderman.

Nancy and Larry Plet on their anniversary by Lillian and Morris Kimmel.

Ruth Baron on her birthday by Lillian and Morris Kimmel.

Rabbi Reuven and Naomi Bulka on their son's marriage by Fanny Gosevitz.

Philip and Lynnie Zunder on their anniversary by Eric Weiner, Arlene Godfrey, Melissa and Laura.

Sarah Green on her special birthday by David, Barbara, Maxwell and Ben Kates; and

by Bert and Abe Klugsberg.

Freda Radnoff on becoming a great grandmother by Edith Spom.

Larry Hershorn on his special birthday by Esther Binder.

Lillian and Morris Kimmel on their anniversary and on the birth of their grandson by Debi and Stephen Schneiderman.

**In Memory Of:**

Howard Goldberg by Frances Rothman; and by Seddy Springer Aehbar.

Flora Solomon by The Residents, Board and Staff of the Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge; by Morris and Lillian Kimmel; by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Spector; by Elaine Friedberg; by Bob and Jonathan Dale; by Moishe and Lily Feig; by Reesa and Allan Glenn; by Marvin and Naomi Krym; and by Arnold, Froma and Eliana Rose.

Rosa Schildkraut by Samuel Fleming; by Judith and Jack Weinman; by Reesa and Allan Glenns; by Marvin and Naomi Krym; by Stephen and Sandra Goldstein; by Marilyn and David Binder; by the Rose family; by The Ladies Auxiliary of Tamower Landsman-shaft; by Bernie and Karen Farber; by Sidney and Geri Goldstein; by the Israella Singers; by Audrey and Jacob Levant; by The Residents, Board and Staff of the Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge; by Elaine Friendly, Bob and Jonathan Dale; by Mr. and Mrs. Lou Cass; and by Moishe and Lily Feig.

Ida Levitz by Avraham, Elissa, Michally and Daniel Iny.

Bella Zelikow by The Board of the Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge; by Melane and Marcus Hotz; and by Moishe and Lily Feig.

Hy Dubinsky by Mr. and Mrs. Sam Guttman.

Harry Petigorsky by Ben Peters and Marilyn Peters.

Bernard Krupp by Sheldon and Corinne Taylor; and by Stephen and Debi Schneiderman.

Syd Hartman by the Leith family.

Bill Goldenberg by Bessie Taller.

Doris Astroff by The Residents, Board and Staff of the Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge.

Sam Shainbaum by Bella Altman Leikin.

Sam Fisher by Frances Rothman and family.

**Get well wishes to:**

Joanne Robitaille by Lillian and Morris Kimmel.

Joel Newman by Bill and Phyllis Leith and family.

Louis Eisenberg by Morris and Lillian Kimmel.

Dave Duhinsky by Lil Dubinsky.



Josie and David Finestone with the NAC Orchestra at the Western Wall.

**"Is there a doctor in the house?"**

(Continued from page 7)  
 cine, inhalers, whatever was the 'disease of the day'. I would sometimes receive notes from various people with ailments and would make room calls. One of the musicians had a kidney stone which I was able to treat and another had to be hospitalized briefly in Paris."

Josie and David have tremendous respect for Zukerman and the other musicians. "They are an incredible group of people," says Josie, "who are together

seven days a week and get along very well. They are hard-working, serious musicians who also know how to have a good time. They were very appreciative of having David with them."

"It sounds tremendously exotic, but the musicians work extremely hard," adds Josie. "Between all the travel and the practice time and the acoustic rehearsals, there was very little leisure time. It is like business travel for the musicians, with no regular hours for eating and sleeping.

Every day we were on a bus or a train or a plane."

For the Finestones, 26 days "on the road" translated into 10 rolls of film arranged into scrapbooks with various souvenirs of the tour. "It was an experience of a lifetime," says Josie. "Travelling with Zukerman was a treat. He is a brilliant musician and he is also a mensch."

Adds David, "It was exhilarating, it was wonderful, I would do it again in a minute, but it was definitely exhausting."

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## ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE



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#### A trio of B'nai Mitzvah

Mazal Tov and Yasher Koach to three young men, Mark Kostove, Justin Krane and Jordan Osterer, each of whom was recently called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah. The proud parents of the young celebrants added a meaningful dimension to the milestone by inscribing their son's name in the Sefer Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

#### Golden Book inscription

In honour of his Bar Mitzvah, Mark Kostove has been inscribed in the Golden Book by his proud grandparents, Morrie and Helen Eisen.

On a daily basis you can plant trees for all occasions. An attractive card is sent to the recipient. To order, call the JNF office (798-2411).



Mark Klyman

## Ottawa's only Jewish firefighter is a local hero

By Cynthia Nyman  
Engel

While most little boys dream of growing up to become a fireman, most of them grow up to be anything but.

Not so, Lorne Shusterman. At 44, firefighter Lorne Shusterman, acting lieutenant, City of Ottawa Fire Department, is not only all grown up, but he has been living the dream for almost 22 years.

"I knew I wasn't cut out for a nine-to-five existence," says Ottawa's only, and possibly first-ever, Jewish firefighter. "I'm not a desk-sitter. I wanted to do something out of the ordinary, something exciting, something that involved helping the community."

"So, I investigated firefighting, thought it would be a good career for me and it is. I wouldn't change what I do. I love it. I look forward to going to work."

In 1976, there were 2000 aspiring firefighters for very few positions on the waiting list in his native Toronto, so 20-year-old Shusterman joined his brother, Allan, in Ottawa. Shusterman worked at E.B. Eddy for a couple of

years until he was recruited into the City of Ottawa Fire Department.

"Becoming a firefighter was, and still is, very competitive," he says. "At the time I was accepted there were about 1000 applicants vying for the approximately 12 openings in Ottawa, and the numbers are much the same today. There isn't a whole lot of staff turnover because firefighting offers a good living, a solid career and great job security."

"Interestingly, these days we're getting a lot of applicants with university degrees, although," he smiles, "you can't put out a fire with a degree. You do have to be trained."

Shusterman trained at the Training Centre, No. 4 Station on Industrial Avenue for several weeks before being assigned to a fire station.

"Training gives you the basics of firefighting," he says, "but pulling up to a fire in a building at 4 a.m. where people are trapped is a whole different thing. The training is important but you also learn a lot on the job."

Shusterman will never forget fighting the massive fire last year that razed a new



Lorne Shusterman

housing development at the intersection of Lyon Street and First Avenue in the Glebe.

"That was the biggest fire I've ever seen," he says. "We got the call at 3:30 a.m. and left the (5th and O'Connor) Station right away. We could see the flames against the sky."

A host of local firefighters was dispatched to battle the five-alarm blaze. When only

the ashes remained, Shusterman and two of his men were hailed universally as heroes. The trio had braved the interior of the inferno to save the life of a young girl lying sound asleep in her bedroom, oblivious of the fire raging around her. "There is absolutely no way we could have saved her if the call had come into our station 10 minutes later," he says.

Fighting fire is no simple task. "We're the ones going against nature," Shusterman says. "Everyone is running out of a building and we're running in. To be a firefighter, a person really has to be prepared to live on the edge."

"Firefighters can get trapped in smoke-filled rooms, have stairs break away under them and cause them to fall to the basement," he says. "Picture it, you walk into the interior of a black,

(Continued on page 13)

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## ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE

# Armand Weisbord has been a "fiddle player" all his life

By Sharon Abron  
Drache

The Ottawa Chamber Music Society's 7th annual summer festival, billed as the largest chamber music festival in the world, featured as part of its summer fare "A Tour of the World" - chamber music from countries including Russia, Poland, Sweden, Norway, Northern India, South America, Belgium and Canada.

Like most festival enthusiasts, Armand Weisbord stood in line for close to two hours before the Belgium concert on July 30 at Tabaret Hall during which two pieces by César Franck were showcased, a sonata for violin and piano and a piano solo accompanied by a string quartet. It was a stifling evening, and seniors who might be feeling the heat were offered chairs. I noticed a distinguished white-haired gentleman, mopping his forehead, sitting patiently at the front of the line. "Can you believe that I turn 90 next month," he said casually.

Weisbord is a larger-than-life personality who wants to share what he has known and loved all his life - the violin, or as he prefers to say: "My fiddle - I have been a fiddle player all my life."



Armand and Margaret Weisbord in the 1930s.

He proceeded to tell me that he had trained as a musician at the Belgium Royal Conservatory of Music, and that he played violin in a professional Brussels orchestra for four years under the leadership of some of the greatest conductors of the world, Bruno Walter, Ernest Ansermet, and even world-famous composers who insisted on conducting their own music such as Igor Stravinsky, Maurice Ravel, and Josef Strauss. "That was before I emigrated to Canada in 1936," he said.

"Are you Jewish?" I asked, as we both patiently waited in the pre-concert line-up. "Of course," he replied, "I'm a *Litvak*. My family emigrated from Lithuania to Russia, before the Russian Revolution,

and then in 1918 they emigrated to Belgium. Finally, I chose to come to Ottawa. I was one of the founding members of the Ottawa Jewish Community Orchestra," he offered, as if it were yesterday, when in actuality the Jewish Community Orchestra of which he spoke lasted for about seven years back in the '70s. "If you want to hear more, come over to my home - meet my wife. She is also a violinist."

Who can refuse such an invitation? Our conversation resumed a few weeks ago in Armand and Margaret's Alta Vista home. We sat at their cozy dining table, the adjoining L-shaped living-room in full view, with the prominent piano and two highly polished violins perched on

top. To this day, Armand and Margaret have taught violin to aspiring musicians, young and old. A current star pupil is 23-year-old Mark Benzereci, a young Jewish man from Ottawa now studying in Toronto. "That boy is an outstanding talent - he will be a famous fiddler," Armand's voice trails off for a moment. He is emotionally moved, because this week he has given his favourite bow, a Touchstone, to Benzereci.

Benzereci is one of several students, many of whom are Chinese, Japanese and Korean. The Weisbords teach less now than they used to, but another pupil they mention is Mari Kimora. "She started with us when she was five years old - now, she has her doctorate in musicology, and she is also a composer. She teaches at Juilliard in New York."

Teaching has filled the lives of Armand and Margaret who retired from perpetual active performing in the '70s. As we sit at their dining table, they refer constantly to the joy that the violin has brought into their

lives. Margaret, like Armand, has played the violin since childhood. Since 1936, the musical couple have worked together. Now Margaret is 86, Armand, 90, and they are both equally formidable, secure in their respective talents.

Armand takes himself back to 1936 when he played solo violin concerts for CBC radio twice a week. The national broadcasts were taped in the CBC studio in the Chateau Laurier, where Armand spent most of his performing years (27, until the mid

1960s) as violinist in the Chateau Laurier Trio which played dinner music in the main dining room, every night of the week, and on Sundays at afternoon tea in the long corridor named Peacock Alley. With the exception of four years when Armand was in the Air Force (and Margaret took his place), the trio played Palm Court style classical fare to diners' delight, among whom Joan Bennett was once counted. Armand and Margaret still have the postcard she sent to thank them.

(Continued on page 12)

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**VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4**

**DECEMBER 11, 2000**

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## SJCC Annual Meeting recognizes outstanding community members

This year's October 26th Annual Meeting was full of accomplishments and milestone achievements as the SJCC reported significant growth in both membership and program revenue over the past year. The highlight of the evening was the award presentation ceremony. The SJCC proudly recognized the accomplishments of outstanding members of our community for 1999-2000. Awards were given to the following recipients:

**The Ben Karp SJCC Volunteer Service Award.** This award was established in honour of volunteer extraordinaire Ben Karp, and is intended to recognize continued outstanding volunteer service on behalf of the Soloway Jewish Community Centre.

Recipient: Jeff Gould  
Presented By: Mrs. Ben Karp

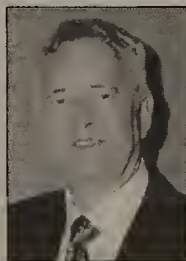
**The Irving "Shap" Shapiro Memorial Award.** This award is given to honour individuals who have made long-term contributions to sports and recreation in the community, both as players and organizers, in the spirit of volunteerism and sportsmanship by the late Irving "Shap" Shapiro.

Recipient: Charles Rotenberg  
Presented by: Howie & Daniel Shapiro

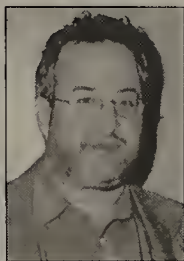
**The Grossman-Klein Family Teen Leadership Award.** This award is intended to recognize outstanding dedication and service to the Jewish community over a number of years, by one male and one female teen.

Recipients: Michael Goldstein & Talya Kagedan  
Presented by: Michael Klein

**The Jack Goldfield Memorial Award For Youth Athletics.** This award is given to one male and one female youth, in recognition of their achievement, participation and/or organizational involvement in athletics in the spirit of true sportsmanship.



Jeff Gould



Charles Rotenberg



Michael Goldstein



Talya Kagedan



Jonathan Berger

Recipients: Jonathan Berger & Hannah Vertes  
Presented by: Morley Goldfield & Anita Goldfield Landis

**The Sharon Koffman Memorial Athletic Award.** This award is given to recognize outstanding sportsmanship, participation and dedication to personal goals of excellence by a university level athlete.

Recipient: Aviva Leber  
Presented by: Sandra Zagon

**The B'nai Brith Canada Parliament Lodge No. 2159 Graduating Student Athletic Achievement Award.** This award is given to a graduating high school student for outstanding athletic achievements throughout his or her high school years.

Recipients: Adam Aronson & Michael Berger  
Presented by: David Freeman

The SJCC also presented employee service awards, recognizing outstanding service for a period of more than five years, to the following staff recipients:



Hannah Vertes



Aviva Leber



Adam Aronson



Michael Berger



**The Soloway JCC staff Employee Service Award winners**

Carolyn Katz - Administrative Assistant (16 years)  
Anne Benedek - Fundraising (13 years)  
Jon Braun - Athletics & Leagues Manager, Sports Camps & Ski School Director (12 years)  
Enid Gould - Staff Accountant (11 years)

Rosa Stone - Administrative Secretary Early Beginnings Multicultural Child Development Centre (11 years)  
Marie Stovick - Manager Early Beginnings Multicultural Child Development Centre (11 years)  
Estelle Backman - Librarian (10 years)

Gail Leli - Member and Guest Services Representative (10 years)  
Howard Geller - Comp-troller (8 years)  
Raul Longo - Member and Guest Services Representative (8 years)  
Julie Vertes - Accounts

Receivable (7 years)  
Svetlana Becker - Cook Early Beginnings Multicultural Development Centre (5 years)  
Sandy Dutil - Teacher Early Beginnings Multicultural Development Centre (5 years)  
Ann-Lynn Rapoport - Teacher Ganon Pre-School (13 years)

# Register NOW for SJCC Winter Programs

Here are just some of the many exciting programs available to you during the SJCC's winter 2001 session. Check your Fall/Winter 2000-2001 program guide for further details or call 798-9818, ext. 295 to receive a copy.

## FITNESS DEPARTMENT

### Plyometrics

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Wednesdays - 9:15 - 10:15 am  
Thursdays - 6:30 - 7:30 pm  
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Tuesday - 6:15 - 7:00 am & 12:15 - 1:00 pm  
Wednesday & Friday - 9:15 - 10:15 am  
Thursday - 6:15 - 7:00 am & 6:30 - 7:30 pm  
Friday - 9:15 - 10:15 am & 12:15 - 1:00 pm  
Sunday - 8:15 - 9:15 am  
Drop in - \$4.50M \$7.50NM  
Book of 10 tickets - \$40M N/A for NM

### Pilates

Mat exercises that tone and lengthen muscles, increase abdominal and back strength, improve posture and body mechanics and reduce joint and lower back stress.

Mondays - 1:15 - 2:15 pm & 2:15 - 3:15 pm  
Wednesdays - 7:00 - 8:00 pm & 8:00 - 9:00 pm  
January 8 - March 7  
\$65M \$90NM

### Fitkids - Age 8 - 12

Fun exercises and activities designed for kids.  
Thursdays - 4:00 - 4:45 pm  
January 11 - March 8  
\$50M \$70NM

## GANON PRESCHOOL

### OPEN HOUSE

February 5  
9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Come observe our classes and ask questions.

### Beresbith - 3 year old program

Age-appropriate readiness skills are taught through an integrated, thematic curriculum. Tuesdays & Thursdays spots available.

### Time for Two's

Two year old nursery with a focus on socialization and child development through play, art, music and more.

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays spots available.

## VERED ISRAEL CULTURAL PROGRAMS

### February 10, 2001

An Israeli sing-along evening with karaoke  
7:00 pm; \$5

### March 29, 2001

Culture and Hi Tech -  
Rony A. Podolsky of Amdocs  
A lecture that examines the development of high tech in Israel and how it influences communication between Israel and the rest of the world.  
7:30 pm  
Free admission

## ADULT PROGRAMS

### Tallit Weaving

Weave yourself into the fabric of Jewish life. Weaving instructor Shirley Browsey will show you how to create a beautiful tallit for your simcha. Give yourself, your child, your grandchild a present to wear proudly to synagogue.  
Wednesdays  
January 10 - 6:30 - 9:30 pm

### Tapestry Weaving ... NEW...

We now have a loom large enough to weave a chupah. What a wonderful wedding present! Create an heirloom to be kept in the family.  
Mondays - January 8 - 12  
\$135M \$165NM  
To register for weaving programs call:  
Shirley Browsey - 488-2798

### Adult Pottery

Tuesdays - 7:00 - 9:30 pm  
January 8 - February 26  
Instructor Eryll Molot  
\$50M \$60NM

## Honeyed Hebrew

Course emphasizes learning spoken Hebrew.  
Thursdays - 8:15 - 9:15 pm  
January 11 - March 15  
\$50M \$70NM

## Friendship Club

A place for older adults to meet, chat, nosh and play games.  
\$18M \$36NM

## DANCING AT THE SJCC

### Ballroom Dancing

Perfect for beginners and those who have completed the course before and want to polish their routines.  
Thursdays - 8:00 - 9:00 pm  
January 11 - March 18  
\$100/couple M \$136/couple NM

### Adult Russian Ballet

Study the Kirov technique with a master!  
Tuesdays - 7:00 - 8:00 pm  
January 9 - March 27  
\$50M \$70NM

### Teen Funk - Grades 9 - 13

The hottest and coolest hip hop/funk moves around!  
Sundays - 7:00 - 8:00 pm  
January 14 - March 11  
\$45M \$65NM

### Much "M" Dance - Grades 6 - 9

From the Backstreet Boys to Britney Spears - learn the moves that made them famous!  
Tuesdays 4:15 - 5:00 pm  
January 9 - March 6  
\$45M \$65NM

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

### Les Petites Artisans - Grades 2 - 4

For children who love arts and crafts.  
Mondays  
January 8 - March 26  
\$40M \$60NM

### Children's Pottery

Tuesdays - 4:00 - 5:30 pm  
January 9 - March 27  
\$65M \$80NM

### Bored No More!

Kids, catch Saturday Night Fever at the SJCC. Movies and swimming, mini-Maccabiah, Israeli night, cosmic bowling, and pre-Purim masquerade party.  
Saturdays 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

January 13, January 11, February 10,  
February 24, March 3  
\$15M/night \$20NM

## GREENBERG FAMILIES LIBRARY

### BOOK DISCUSSION

Wednesday, February 14 - 1:30 pm  
*The Ladies Auxiliary*, by Tova Mirvis  
This powerful and evocative debut novel sheds new light on the nature of community. 1:30 p.m.

### Wednesday, March 21 - 1:30 pm

*Moonlight on The Avenue of Faith*, by Gina Barkholder-Nahai  
A skilled and inventive writer, Nahai demonstrates that even the darkest magic cannot defeat the extraordinary powers of love.  
SJCC and Library Members - no charge.  
Guest - \$2.00

## OTTAWA JEWISH FILM SOCIETY

### Sunday, December 31 - 3:00 p.m.

*A Kiss To This Land, Mexico, 1994*  
Chronicles the lives of Jewish immigrants to Mexico during the 1920s and 1930s

### Sunday, January 28 - 3:00 p.m.

*Chasing Shadows, U.K., 1990*  
A daughter films her father's first return visit, since 1945, to his hometown on the Hungarian border.

And  
*Girona: The Mother of Israel, The Jews of Catalonia, USA, 1939*  
Explores Jewish life during the Spanish Golden age. Features Ladino folk music.

### Sunday, February 28 - 3:00 p.m.

*The New Klezmerim, Canada, 2000*  
Examines the revival of interest in Klezmer music. Filmed at KlezKanada in the Laurentians.

### Sunday, March 25

*The Singing Blacksmith, USA, 1938*  
This classic Yiddish film takes place in a typical Shtetl in Russia. The hero, played by Moishe Oysher, enjoys the life of a bachelor. His life changes when he meets and marries his true love.

No Charge

## ATHLETICS & LEAGUES

### The Maccabi Club - Grades 5-7

The Maccabi Club meets weekly to participate in a variety of sports, including soccer, basketball, floor hockey, fencing, skating, and more. Special trips to sporting events will also be organized.

## MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION PARTY

### Adults Only!

### Join us for Wine & Cheese

Tuesday, January 30, 2001  
7:00 - 9:00 pm

Soloway Jewish Community Centre  
The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building  
21 Nadolny Sachs Private

Nathan, David & Max Zelikovitz Families Social Hall

For more information, call Anna at 798-9818, ext. 225

## HAVDALAH ... FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Saturday, December 16 • 6:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Soloway Jewish Community Centre  
21 Nadolny Sachs Private

Light refreshments will be served

Cost: \$5.00/family

Bring the family for a unique Havdalah experience as we take leave of the Shabbat and begin the new week. Join us for an enjoyable evening of songs, explanations, and the Havdalah service itself, while learning the how's and why's of making Havdalah. Children will participate in a special craft program featuring Spice Box making.



For more information call Suzanne  
798-9818, ext. 247





# Call 798-9818, ext. 295

Tuesdays - 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., January 9 - April 12  
\$35M \$50NM

## Junior Gymnastics - Grades K,1,2 and 3

An introduction to the wonderful world of gymnastics with an emphasis on fun!

Sundays - 3:40 - 5:00 pm; January 7 - April 8  
\$85M \$105NM

## Girls Only Basketball - Grades 5-8

This program emphasizes skill development through instruction and scrimmages.

Thursday - 4:00 - 5:00 pm; January 4 - April 14  
\$65M \$95NM

## Adult Golf Instruction

Sundays 4:00 - 5:00 pm; February 11 - March 25  
SJCC Gyni  
\$100M \$125NM

## AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS

Basketball - SJCC  
Floor Hockey - 881 Broadway  
\$65M \$95NM

## GRADES K-2 Basketball

Mondays - 4:00 - 5:00 pm; January 8 - April 9 (13 weeks)

## Floor Hockey

Tuesdays - 4:00 - 5:00 pm; January 9 - April 10 (13 weeks)

## GRADES 3 AND 4

### Basketball

Tuesdays - 4:00 - 5:00 pm; January 9 - April 10 (13 weeks)

### Floor Hockey

Mondays - 4:00 - 5:00 pm; January 8 - April 9 (13 weeks)

## GRADES 5-7

### Basketball

Wednesdays - 4:00 - 5:00 pm; January 10 - April 11 (13 weeks)

## Theatre makes a comeback

**STAGE RIGHT** is an exciting "new"  
**THEATRE ARTS PROGRAM**  
at the SJCC, designed for  
teens in grades 9 - 13.  
*No experience necessary ...  
just the desire to perform!*

You'll learn:

- \*Improvisation
- \*Monologues
- \*Scene work
- \*Stage fighting and more!

\$60M \$75NM

Call:

Michael Torontow  
Theatre Arts  
Manager  
798-9818, ext 231



## AQUATICS

### Course Changes

#### Pre Competitive Swim Club -

Name change to: "Geffile Fish Swim Club"

Sunday - All Team Members 11:00-12:00 pm  
Sunday - Sharks (Senior) 5:00-6:00 pm  
Tuesday - Dolphins (Novice) & Sharks (Senior) 5:15-6:00 pm  
Thursday - Whales (Junior) & Sharks (Senior) 4:00-5:00 pm

#### Price Changes:

Dolphin (Novices) x2 a week \$50M \$70NM  
Whales (Junior) x2 a week \$60M \$80NM  
Sharks (Senior) x3 a week \$70M \$100NM

#### Junior Lifeguard Club -

Name Change to:

"West Ottawa Junior Lifesaving Club"

Sunday - 5:00 - 6:00 pm  
FREE - Must register Max 12 Participants

#### Master Swim Program -

Name change to: "Master Swim Fit"

Tuesday & Thursday - 6:00 - 7:30 am  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 12:00 - 1:00 pm  
\$80M \$100NM

#### Aquatic Fitness Classes

##### Deep Water (Intense)

Monday, Wednesday Friday - 9:15 - 10:00 am

##### After Work Energizer (Moderate to Intense)

Monday & Wednesday - 5:30 - 6:15 pm

##### Arthritic/Fibromyalgia

Tuesday & Thursday - 11:00 - 11:45 am

##### Pre Natal

Tuesday 7:00 - 7:45 pm & Thursday 7:30 - 8:15 pm

##### Aqua Kick

Monday & Wednesday - 7:30 - 8:15 pm

\$50M \$80NM - Drop-in \$2M \$6NM

### FREE GUEST DAYS

on Sunday afternoons

Chai members are invited to bring in a guest,  
free-of-charge, from 3:00 to 8:00 pm.

Limit of one guest per member,  
ages 16 and over only, with valid photo ID.



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Cannot be combined with any other offers.  
Price varies according to membership category

### CHAILIGHTS

is a publication of the Soloway Jewish Community Centre  
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21 Nadolny Sachs Private, Ottawa K2A 1R9  
Tel. (613) 798-9818 Fax: (613) 798-9839  
sjcc@jccottawa.com • http://www.jccottawa.com

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# SJCC Downhill Ski Program

IN CO-OPERATION WITH **Edelweiss** ... now part of Mont St. Sauveur Group of Resorts including Killington, Vermont

**8 SUNDAYS, JANUARY 7 - FEBRUARY 25**

- Features:
- Eight 1-1/2 hour lessons (all day instruction optional)
  - Bus service and ski rentals available (no daily riders permitted)
  - Bus service from SJCC, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private
  - Departure - 8:00 am; Return - 4:15 pm

**FREE  
HOT CHOCOLATE  
on return to SJCC**

Program No.	Program (Prices include GST)	Lessons & Lifts	Bus	Rentals
1	Pee Wee Lessons (age 5-6) 1/2 Day - 10:00 am-12:00 pm	M \$120 • NM \$130	Parents must provide transportation	\$110
2	Junior 1/2 Day Lessons* (age 7-12)	M \$209 • NM \$219	\$75	\$110
3	Teen 1/2 Day Lessons* (age 13-17)	M \$245 • NM \$255	\$75	\$110
4	All-Day Instruction (age 7-15)**	M \$309 • NM \$319	\$75	\$110
5	Lifts Only (age 7-12)	M \$115 • NM \$125	\$75	\$110
6	Lifts Only (age 13-18)	M \$165 • NM \$175	\$75	\$110
7	1/2-Day Snowboarding Lessons (age 9-17)	M \$245 • NM \$255	\$75	\$110
8	All-Day Snowboarding Lessons (age 9-17)	M \$309 • NM \$319	\$75	\$110

\* Morning classes. Afternoon free ski. \*\* Classes 10:00 - 12:00 noon and 1:00 - 3:00 pm.

Responsible bus and lunchtime supervision

Maximum of 120 spaces ONLY available in lessons. Don't be disappointed. Register now!

## REGISTRATION:

Pick up your SJCC Ski registration form at the SJCC Customer Service desk or phone 798-9818, ext. 295. For more information, contact Jon Braun, Athletics Supervisor, at ext. 267. Cheques, Visa, Mastercard and Amex accepted. Cheques must be payable to SJCC Ski Program, Soloway Jewish Community Centre, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private, K2A 1R9. The SJCC reserves the right to limit registration based on program or transportation availability. Ski tags and group information will be mailed to you in early January.

## REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

**January 1 - Edelweiss; January 22 - Teen Bus.**

Rental measurements taken on January 4 at 7:00 pm, SJCC. All skiers who need rentals should be present to ensure proper fit.

## REFUND POLICY:

Complete refund less administrative fee of \$5 if notice of withdrawal received by January 2, 2001. No refunds after January 2, except for medical reasons.



Program  
No. 9

## FOR TEENS ONLY SJCC Teen Ski Club Grades 9 - 13

*Five Sundays Skiing Different Hills  
including:  
Edelweiss  
Mont Ste-Marie  
Camp Fortune  
Mont Tremblant*

**DATES:** January 28 - February 25  
**HILLS:** Mont Tremblant,  
Mont Ste-Marie (twice), Edelweiss,  
Camp Fortune  
**COST:** M\$265/NM\$310 (rentals not included)  
**Departure:** 9:00 am from the SJCC

**Experienced Skiers Only Please!**



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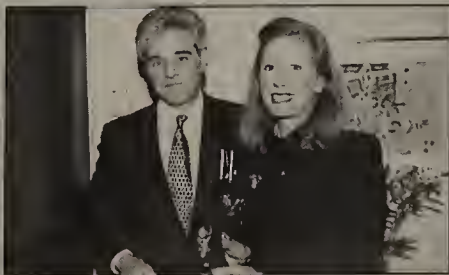
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Linda Divon, honorary member  
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chair Naomi Lipsky Cracower



Jacques Shore and Naomi Lipsky Cracower.

Photos: Robin Chernick



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Women's Division Chair Marcia Cantor.



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## ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE

# Armand Weisbord has been a "fiddle player" all his life

(Continued from page 10)

From 1942-46, Armand served in the Air Force as an entertainer for the troops. "I was carrying guns for sure, as were all the members of the Air Force, but mostly I played my fiddle, while everybody else was shooting, and the V2s were dropping, and I knew I was alive because I could hear them drop ... You understand that if I couldn't hear, I'd be dead."

When the Second World War ended Armand returned to Ottawa. He continued to play with the Chateau Laurier Trio, while simultaneously tuning to a grander project, the precursors to the current Ottawa Symphony Orchestra, previously called the Ottawa Civic and then the Ottawa Philharmonic Orchestra. From 1965-67, he was the concert master, with Margaret at his side in the violin section.

"When the philharmonic

started we had only string instruments, violins, basses, cellos. The late Blanche Loeb was a key organizer. She was a violinist too. Blanche's daughter, Diane, wanted to be an opera singer and she appeared as a guest artist at the Ottawa Philharmonic, and for the Jewish Orchestra in the '70s."

Before talking about the Jewish Orchestra, Armand continues to talk about the early days of the Ottawa Philharmonic. "Bert Loeb gave us the Loeb Warehouse on Industrial Avenue for free for our practises. And we performed in the Capital Theatre which was the official venue for the performing arts prior to the establishment of the National Arts Centre in the '60s."

Bertram Loeb confirmed this - the Capital Theatre then seated about 800. Eugene Kash, Maureen Forrester's husband, was



Armand and Margaret Weisbord today.

the first conductor of the Ottawa Philharmonic.

In the mid '60s Weisbord left the Ottawa Philharmonic. "I made that choice - it was a watershed because Margaret and I became totally devoted to our teaching, with the exception of the 1970s when we were both members of the Jewish Orchestra which numbered 45-50 musicians, who were not all Jewish. We played every Sunday morning from ten until noon, and I will tell

you something funny. One Sunday a woman asked me if all the musicians were Jewish, and I said, 'No', and you know what, she never came to another concert."

I spoke to Dr. David Malek, who played the clarinet in the Jewish Orchestra. He said it was a unique musical happening, supported totally by the Jewish Community Centre under the leadership of Hy Hochberg, but he recalls that "the musicians and the

Centre were more keen than the community at large - the audiences dwindled, and that made the experience bittersweet ..."

At Armand's request, Bert Loeb recently translated an article from an Israeli newspaper about Armand's sister, Rifka Goldguard.

Goldguard, 95, received a key to the city of Holon for her master violin teaching to three world class violinists, Yitzhak Perlman, Jascha Heifetz, and Pinchas Zukerman. Armand relates: "My sister was teaching Yitzhak Perlman since he was five years old. He grew up in Holon." Margaret interrupts, "Rifka worked so hard with Perlman, with his hands and with his arms, because of his infantile paralysis."

Armand picks up from his wife: "I am a teacher, my sister is a teacher, my wife Margaret teaches - it was a choice. You see, you have to enjoy life, and Mar-

garet and I wanted to have a family. We have two beautiful daughters, Jeanette Williams and Judy Hemmingsen. Neither is a musician, but they love music, and so do Judy's two children, a boy and a girl, our two grandchildren."

As I look at the photographs taken at Armand Weisbord's 90th birthday party, I see several of his students as well as his family. These students are the other children of Armand and Margaret. Prominent among them is the violinist Ivan Harea, a Romanian emigré.

The list of students is long, and it appears to keep going, as do the coaching careers of Armand and Margaret, companions in life, and fellow travellers in the world of the violin, staying home, right here in Ottawa, and yet through their love of music, they are constantly touring the world.

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Nava Rabaev



## ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE

### Ottawa's only Jewish firefighter is a local hero

(Continued from page 9)  
smoke-filled room or building, you don't know the layout, where the furniture is located, where the windows are. Aerosol cans explode in your face. Some people keep grenades or bullets or other unexploded wartime paraphernalia in their homes. You're wearing a mask, but if something unforeseen or unexpected happens and you get hurt or trapped, you know your air will run out in 20 minutes."

In his early years, the Ottawa Fire Department handled some 5000-7000 calls a year. Today, despite in-home smoke detectors and better building codes, the department answers 20,000-plus calls. Acting Lieutenant Shusterman points to arson, careless smoking, parties, and alcohol, for the increased calls, as well as the fact that the role of the modern fireman is greatly expanded.

"Today's firefighters are trained to deal with hazardous materials, situations like medical responses, water rescue, technical (high

angle) rescue, repelling, and much more," he says.

"We work 42 hours a week in big clumps of time," explains Shusterman. "Fourteen-hour nights, 10-hour days, and once a month we do a 24-hour shift from Sunday morning to Monday morning."

He enjoys shift work because it gives him quality time with his children. "And Laurie likes that she sometimes comes home to supper cooked," he smiles.

Lorne and Laurie Shusterman have two sons: Zachary, 14 and Benjamin, 11.

Lorne Shusterman is proud to be part of the life-saving chain that includes firefighters, policemen, doctors, nurses, ambulance workers, physiotherapists and social workers. Would he encourage his sons to follow in his footsteps? "I don't think it's for everybody," he says. "I've seen enough tragedy. They can miss that."

"I'll let my children choose what they want to do," says Shusterman.

**Diane Koven, B.A. (Hons.)**



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170 g Streits  
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## IN MEMORIAM

### A tribute to my grandmother - Anne Tishman

By Cindi Resnick

*This is the story of Anne Tishman. Born February 12, 1906 in Poland; died October 27, 2000 in Toronto.*

Anne Feldman, or Nacha as she was fondly called, was born in Poland in 1906. She was the fifth of six children of Abraham (Abish as he was known to friends and family) and Esther. Abish was a peddler who sensed the rise of anti-Semitism in Eastern Europe. He decided to follow his brothers and move to the promise of a better life for his family in Canada.

Around 1910, he made the hazardous trip across the Atlantic with his older children - Morris, Izzy and Jenny. His intention was to settle in Toronto, work hard and raise the money to eventually bring over Esther and younger children, Joe, 8; Anne, 6; and Rose, 3. And work hard he did. By 1912, he was ready to have his wife and small children join him in Canada.

Abish sent Esther money to buy passage aboard the first "unsinkable" luxury liner, the *Titanic*. We are told that it was with great excitement that the family left their home in Poland with their meagre possessions and made their way to England, weeks ahead of the *Titanic's* departure. They travelled by foot, by horse and cart, and with the kindness of

strangers, toward the Polish border.

The *Titanic* set sail from England on April 12, 1912, but as luck would have it, it was without the Feldman family. In a simple twist of fate, they were turned back at the Polish border. Esther did not have the \$200 demanded by the Polish authorities as a head tax for all those leaving the country. She was refused exit from Poland.

Young Anne and her family were spared from certain death... as they would surely have been travelling in steerage on the *Titanic*. In Toronto, there was chaos. There was no modern communication in 1912 such as there is today. Abish and his children were amongst the many who were waiting for the arrival of their loved ones. When word arrived that the ship had sunk, they were devastated with grief. It took an entire week of worry and fear, and what seemed to be endless days of waiting, until the list of passengers on the *Titanic* was finally made available to the families. Their grief turned to joy when the names of Esther, Joe, Anne and Rose Feldman did not appear on the ship's registry.

Once they were turned away from the Polish border, the family had no home to return to so they headed toward the home of Esther's

sister. She took the family in, while Esther worked in whatever way she could to earn money. At the same time, Abish was raising money to cover all the expenses needed for the voyage to Canada. Several months later, Abish and Esther had enough money for the family to be rejoined.

Upon their departure, Esther's sister begged her to leave Anne in Poland. She had no children and she promised to love her, educate her and raise her as her own. She even promised to send her to Canada at some later date. Esther said, "No, I would give you anything, but do not ask me to give you my child."

And so, they all went on their way, including Anne. They made it safely through the border, on to England and then to Canada. In another eerie twist of fate, the aunt and uncle were never heard from again as they were killed along with their Jewish neighbours as the First World War swept through Poland.

The journey to Canada was not easy. My grandmother had often told me that she remembers how violently ill her mother was on the crossing, and that the three young children had to care for her and for each other. They had virtually no possessions except five beautiful brass candlesticks, handed down from

their grandmother, which were lit each Friday night to welcome the Sabbath. Esther insisted that they carry those beloved candlesticks with them throughout their journey and never let them out of their sight. So the two little girls, Rose and Anne, put the heavy candlesticks in their pockets, guarded them fiercely, and brought them safely to Canada.

Those candlesticks became a focal point of family life for the Feldmans, as the family grew and prospered in Toronto. They lit them each and every Friday night. They are still in the family; two of them in the home of Anne's



Anne Tishman with granddaughter Cindi Resnick

daughter, Ruth, and three of them, in my home, given to me by my grandmother.

Anne grew up in Toronto, met and married Max Tishman and together they raised three children. She is survived by her sister Rose, her children, 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. On October 27, 2000, at 94, she lit her precious Sabbath candles, laid her head back and bade her family farewell.

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## ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE

### Multiple Appeals MAC — Committee 798-4696 x 234

#### MAC FACTS

##### The Application Process

MAC procedures are designed to ensure the prompt processing of all applications. Early application is recommended since no publicity is permitted until the campaign/event is MAC approved. All MAC approved campaigns/events will be listed in this column in order to notify other organizations of approved campaigns and to publicize them to the community.



Leon Bronstein  
Chair

##### The Application Requirements For Approval to Conduct a Fund-raising Activity

MAC's standard application form requests the following information, in writing, from each applicant:

- the purpose of the campaign/event, including (if applicable) the justification for requiring supplemental funds;
- the campaign/event goal;
- the date and results of the last fund-raising campaign/event;
- the campaign's beginning and ending dates;
- the campaign method and form of solicitation; and
- an agreement to submit a report on the amount raised and the number of contributors.

##### The Review Procedure

Each application is reviewed upon receipt and any missing information is requested. Fully completed applications which conform to the Policy and do not present any scheduling conflicts are approved within 30 days. If immediate approval is not possible, MAC, or the chair, will communicate with the applicant to resolve the issue so that the application can be approved. If MAC is unable to grant approval, the applicant has a right of appeal to the executive committee of the Ottawa Vaad Ha'ir, whose decision will be final.

##### The Review Criteria

The Committee takes several factors into account in reviewing each application, particularly:

- the applicant's previous fund-raising activities;
- the number and scope of other approved fund-raising activities which are to be conducted in the community during the community year as well as during the same time frame;
- possible effects on the UJA campaign; and
- any other factors which are relevant to the process.

##### MAC Approved (as of November 22, 2000)

- Soloway JCC Community Sports Dinner, November 29, 2000
- Beth Shalom West Jewish Music Concert Souvenir Booklet, December 4, 2000
- Yitzhak Rabin HS, Chanukah Ball Ad Book, December 16, 2000
- Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University, Theatre Evening at the NAC, April 22, 2001
- Hillel Academy, Tribute Dinner, May 15, 2001



The Policy sets out guidelines, criteria and limits relating to the magnitude and scheduling of campaigns. For a copy of the Policy or the meeting schedule, call the Vaad MAC staffperson, Rebecca Holzman (798 4696 ext.234).

The MAC column to date has dealt with principles, policies and procedures.

Tune in next time for: MAC's HOTTEST ISSUES

## Acclaimed animator Sharon Katz works with Hillel Academy students

By Benita Baker

Hillel Academy Grade 4 students won't be watching cartoons the same way anymore, thanks to the extraordinary opportunity provided to them by award-winning animator Sharon Katz. The students in each class actually created a short animated film, under the direction of Sharon and the teachers.

For a period of three weeks, beginning in the middle of November, Sharon became a "roving animation centre", setting up her specially-equipped computer for a week at a time in each of the Grade 4 classes. She worked with the students to create a film that not only covered curriculum requirements but also gave students the opportunity to explore classroom material from a different perspective. They worked with artistic materials, making decisions on colours, shapes and forms. A key goal of this project was to teach children to look critically at animation.

"As the children become more familiar with the process, they have expectations for excellence," said Sharon.

Among her many accomplishments, Sharon

Katz created *Happy Birthday Hannah*, an animated film produced with the support of the National Film Board. This film received a number of awards and was shown at several film festivals, most recently at the Children's Film Program at the National Gallery of Art in Washington. Her success has prompted a lot of media attention, including profiles in the *Ottawa Citizen* and the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin*. She is currently in the final stages of her latest production, an independent film to be released in the spring.

The animation project at Hillel was made possible by a grant Sharon received from the Ontario Arts Council, Artists in Education Office. For almost 10 years she has been successful in securing these grants, allowing her to provide the animation experience to children of all ages and all learning stages. The project was also made possible by a grant from the Hillel Academy PTA.

"The response to my invitation from Hillel Academy was overwhelming," Sharon said. "The school was so enthusiastic and supportive. I really enjoyed working with the students."



Sharon Katz works on animation film with Hillel Academy Grade 4 student Zachary Levine.

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## ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE

### Day services for the Jewish elderly

## Your call can make it happen

Jewish Family Services and the Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge are jointly proposing a day program at the new Lodge for elderly people living in the community who have cognitive and/or emotional difficulties.

Government sponsorship is critical to the launching of this program. As the government is seeking numbers to indicate the need within the Jewish community, it is imperative that the community demonstrates that it wants this service.

The focus of the program would be on stimulating the participants with cultural, recreational and social activities combined with a hot, nourishing, kosher lunch. The

program would run weekdays from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm with transportation being organized.

The program also offers the caregiver a much needed rest from the constant worry of watching over their loved one. Families will feel comforted knowing their family member is getting special attention in a positive, familiar and welcoming environment under professional supervision.

If you have a family member who would benefit from this service, call Mark Zarecki at JFS (722-2225). The Lodge and JFS will initiate meetings with the government to try to make the day program a reality.

## Rabbis fly JET into Ottawa

**Q:** How many rabbis does it take to fly JET?

**A:** This year the answer is three. Rabbis Dovid Burger and Dovid Lewin have joined founder Rabbi Zischa Shaps at Ottawa based Jewish Education through Torah (JET).

Rabbi Dovid and Suzanne Burger arrived this past summer from Fort Worth, Texas. Despite the drastic change in the weather, the Burger family have acclimated quite smoothly into Ottawa's warm community.

Rabbi Burger, originally from Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, studied at Yeshiva University in New York (B.Sc.), at Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim - Yerushalayim in Israel, and the Rabbinical Seminary of America (Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim) in New York where he received his ordination.

Following two years of teaching in New York, the adventurous Burgers moved

south to open and run the Young Israel of Fort Worth, Texas. In addition to running a synagogue and outreach organization, the Burgers ran their own classroom for their 10 children.

Despite the pleasant experiences of home schooling, Suzanne Burger says she is quite happy to now have Torah Academy do the job for her. She has taken the opportunity to assume the responsibility of JET's program administrator as well as working in Torah Academy's preschool division.

The return of a native "Ottawan" is a happy event and one which occurred in September when Rabbi Dovid Lewin returned from Toronto to his home town. Many may remember the late Nathan Lewin, who taught for many years at Hillel Academy; now his grandson will carry on the tradition of educating a new genera-

tion.

Although he spent a short time at Yeshivas Ohr Somayach in Jerusalem and Monsey, NY, most of Lewin's education was received at the Telshe Yeshiva in Cleveland, Ohio. After marrying his wife Rochel in 1996, he continued his studies in the Telshe Kollel, where he received his smicha in 1997. He is well versed in the practical application of Jewish Law (*Halacha*) and received training as a *sofer* (scribe).

Lewin's most enjoyable

experiences were his involvement with Telshe Yeshiva's Sunday morning outreach program, *Zichron Chaim Tzvi*.

For almost four years, in Cleveland, Lewin gave a regular well-attended weekly breakfast class in practical Jewish Living and Pirkei Avos (Ethics of Our Fathers).

Lewin returned to Ottawa with his wife and three children, to teach half-a-day at Torah Academy of Ottawa, with his afternoons and evenings devoted to JET.

  
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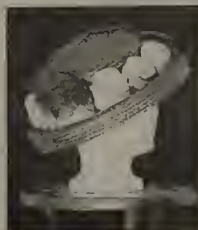
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## ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE

# Anger has no redeeming features, says noted Kabbalist

By Bob Dale

Rabbi Laili Wolf began his November 23 lecture at Nepean City Hall with a parable.

A man was driving a narrow, winding road up a beautiful mountainside. As he neared the top, a woman driving down from the summit opened her car window and yelled to him, "Pig!"

"Sow!" the man retorted in anger as he looked towards the woman who had offended him. As he turned his eyes from the road, his car struck a pig. The woman was trying to caution him about a pig on the roadway, but the man took her warning as an insult, said Wolf, an Australian rabbi who was visiting Ottawa as part of a 35-city tour of North America.

The problem was that the man's actions were driven by anger, fuelled by the insult he had assumed the woman had directed his way.

According to Wolf, anger isn't a productive way of dealing with problems. It has absolutely no redeeming features, and most importantly, is extremely harmful to our relationships. It's also bad for our bodies. Modern day teachings, which focus on the need to "vent" our anger, are totally misdirected and achieve nothing. In fact, says Wolf, when you vent your anger, it's only a dress

rehearsal for the next occasion, when you'll most likely act the same way and achieve exactly the same ineffectual results.

Clearly, there must be a better approach. Wolf has apparently found one, based on combining the mystical teachings of Kabbalah with Hasidism. He now travels the world sharing his insights with as many people as possible, to help them deal with everyday situations and events whether or not they understand the complex underlying subject matter on which they are based.

Instead of getting angry at insults, actual or perceived, Wolf says we must try to understand where the other person is coming from. To help his audience understand this process and its potential impact, Wolf asked them to close their eyes, and think about an incident where things got out of hand with a loved one as a result of anger. He asked audience members to recall the other person's look of hurt and their body language, and the feeling of frustration the other person must have felt.

Wolf then challenged his audience to reconstruct the situation, based on putting themselves in the other person's place and understanding what might have been behind his or her words and

the feelings they were based on. It was obvious to everybody in the lecture hall that the entire sequence of events, and the eventual outcome, would have been quite different.

More generally, Wolf stated that instead of getting upset at others and the things they do and hoping they will change, each of us must change our approach to other people. If we demonstrate empathy and compassion for others, and learn how to control our anger and our words, we can accomplish far more than changing our individual relationships. Indeed, it's also possible to have a significant impact on making the entire world a better place. Wolf went on to relate this perspective to ongoing disputes in Israel between Haredim and Secular Jews and between Ashkenazim and Sephardim, as well as to conflicts between the various branches of Judaism. Instead of approaching people in a hostile way, it's extremely important to approach them in a spirit of Ahavas Yisrael, love of other Jews. After all, he reminded his audience on

several occasions, we're all creations of the same Being.

We must also recognize the ripple effect of our actions. In that regard, Wolf spoke about people who read about an atrocity in the newspaper over their morning coffee, shake their head, and then go about their daily business without giving the situation a second thought. That's not an acceptable approach, he cautioned. When we read or hear about such things, we are obligated to do something in our community that addresses a similar problem, no matter how relatively insignificant the problem might be or how small our actions might appear. Whatever we do will ultimately make a difference, because of the impact our thoughts and actions have on other people. A similar process occurs when we say prayers for people's health while attending synagogue. According to Wolf, studies have shown that such prayers have often played a key part in helping people recover from their illnesses.

Although he is a teacher, Wolf surprised some in his audience by his criticism of

the education system, particularly relating to primary school. He said he doesn't remember what he learned in school as a child, because 90 per cent of it was useless and irrelevant to what came later on in life. More important to success is the need to develop a child's self-esteem, and his or her sense of personal worth. If that happens, the child will have the tools he or she needs to deal with other people, as well as to help make our entire society better.

Wolf was also highly critical of the media, which he called an exploitative commercial enterprise whose spin on reality appeals to our more basic instincts while discounting more appropriate models of behaviour.

Rabbi Laili Wolf is the founder and director of the Human Development Institute which has offices in Australia and the United States. A graduate lawyer, trained educator, and an ordained rabbi, Laili Wolf also delivers seminars on ethical issues in the fields of medicine, commerce, and education and society. Born to Polish Holocaust sur-

vivors and educated in Australia, he travels extensively conducting seminars and retreats in the United States, Canada, Israel, and South Africa. His most recent book, *Practical Kabbalah: A Guide to Wisdom in Everyday Life*, is published by Random House/Three Rivers.

The Ottawa lecture, attended by an eclectic mix of some 150 people, Jewish and non-Jewish, was sponsored by the Jewish Youth Library, an educational and outreach organization offering a wide range of Jewish programming in Canada's capital. Its programs include a Sunday-morning class on the issues discussed by Rabbi Wolf.

This was Wolf's third visit to Ottawa. If those in the audience have their way, it certainly won't be his last. By the way, it's strongly rumoured that at least some of the people who attended this lecture are seriously thinking about signing up for a course in Kabbalah and snorkling Rabbi Wolf will be holding on an island off the Great Barrier Reef this coming July.

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## ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE



### Vaad do you want to know?

#### CRC

In light of recent events in Israel, the Community Relations Committee, has reactivated its media monitoring committee under the chair of Jonathan Calof. A new website has been launched that can be accessed at [www.geocities.com/israel/facts/](http://www.geocities.com/israel/facts/). Responsibilities of the committee include monitoring the local media, responding in an appropriate manner to news items and letters that are controversial in nature and meeting with representatives of the media to share our concerns in maintaining a balance in the reporting process.

The political action committee under the chair of Barbara Farber organized a series of meetings prior to the Federal election. These informal gatherings with local candidates of all party affiliation were designed to educate and inform as well as to draw attention to issues of concern to the Jewish community.

Anyone wishing to get involved in either of these worthwhile initiatives, is asked to call Rebecca Holzman, Communications Coordinator (798-4696, ext. 234).

#### OVH

The Ottawa Vaad HaKashrut would like to welcome "Home Sweet Home" to the ranks of Kosher certification. Home Sweet Home manufactures decorated sugar cubes and gingerbread cookies. For more information call Kara Cashion (234-3275).

Pelican Fishery and the Holiday Inn Plaza de la Chaudière Hotel are no longer certified by the Ottawa Vaad HaKashrut.

#### Vaad

We are pleased to welcome two new staff members to the community. Jessica Marks has assumed the role of Business Manager of the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* and can be reached at 798-4696 ext. 256.

Ruth Silbert has taken on the role of Community Planner, an important resource in determining the future strength, growth and well-being of our community. She can be reached at 798-4696 ext. 236.

#### JSA

Due to numerous incidents that have occurred on campus related to the Middle East conflict, Alex Mordfield, the director of the Jewish Students Association, and Rebecca Holzman, communications coordinator of the Jewish Community Council, recently met with Carleton University's vice-president, Internal, and the Race Relations adviser along with representatives of Clith du Lihan's executive.

The meeting was constructive and productive. The consensus reached was that a new committee could be formed to specifically deal with issues relating to Campus Clubs and Societies. Carleton University's Students Association (CUSA), asked each of the groups to submit recommendations

that they would like to see included in this new committee's mandate. The hope is that the committee might launch proactive responses to situations before they arise. Both groups agreed to have ongoing open communication to try and improve relations on Campus.

#### Archives

The Archives is set to launch a new exhibit at the Soloway JCC this month. For those who missed a Capital Jewish Experience at the Bytown Museum this past summer, a synopsis will be showcased, detailing the experience of Jewish immigrants to Canada's capital prior to 1931.

#### Israel

With the continuing crisis in the Middle East, United Jewish Communities, the umbrella organization for all North American Jewish communities, is committed to maintaining strong ties between Israel and the Diaspora. Solidarity missions continue to be organized and have proven most successful. Anyone in the Ottawa community interested in participating in a Mission is asked to contact Heidi Coleman, UJA director (798-4696 ext. 246).

#### Shoah

The Shoah (Holocaust) Remembrance Committee, in partnership with the Embassy of Israel, will be sponsoring an art exhibit entitled, "VISA FOR LIFE, Diplomats Who Rescued Jews".

The exhibit will be on display at the Soloway JCC from January 4 to 14.

Produced by the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, it was funded by the Yad Vashem Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority. The exhibit, not to be missed, is a poignant recounting of a most dramatic period in the History of the Jews.

#### Campus

The new multicoloured playstructure erected behind Hillel Academy was enthusiastically received by all children on Campus. The bonus of a prolonged warm fall enabled students to enjoy some additional time on the structure.

In an attempt to maintain a safe and secure environment on Campus, two projects will be completed shortly. One is the installation of monitoring devices at entrances to 31 Nadenby Sachs Private (Michael & Sibyl Greenberg Family Centre For Jewish Learning). The other is the installation of an intercom system for all visitors to tenants of 11 Nadenby Sachs Private (Jewish Services Building).

#### Birthright

The Jewish Community Council is seeking prospective counsellors for *Birthright Israel* trips. Anyone interested is asked to call Rebecca Holzman (798-4696, ext. 234).

## New Vaad staff appointment

Ruth Silbert has been appointed the Director of Planning for the Jewish Community of Ottawa. In making the announcement, Vaad Executive Director Mitchell Bellman commented that "this position requires an individual with good communication and leadership skills and the Vaad is fortunate to have someone of Ruth's calibre".

Ruth's responsibilities include working with volunteer committees and service agencies to assess needs and programs; maintaining regular communi-



Ruth Silbert

cations with beneficiary agency professionals about their future direction; and analyzing information on demographic trends.

Born in Hamilton, Ontario, Ruth attended McMaster and Dalhousie Universities.

She has extensive experience in community development having served for many years on the board of directors of the Dovecourt Community Centre, including two years as president.

A member of the Ottawa Reconstructionist Havurah, Ruth developed a children's education program to assist in the teaching of Hebrew language and Jewish knowledge.

### Bias in the Media

## A community response

By Rebecca Holzman

The headline blares, "Israel is an outlaw state". Your colleague asks, "Why are Israeli soldiers murdering Palestinian children?" Pictures of bloodied Palestinians flash across your television screen.

How do you respond?

The Media Monitoring Committee of the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa is here to assist you. Composed of local community volunteers, the committee provides a variety of services. These include:

- a website ([www.geocities.com/israel/facts/](http://www.geocities.com/israel/facts/)) with

information on how to respond to the media, facts about the current situation in the Middle East and pictures reflecting the everyday Israeli reality.

- a discussion group where any member of the community can feel free to ask for assistance in responding to biased media coverage.

- seminars on how to answer the proliferation of misinformation.

- assistance, via an electronic forum, in forming a written rebuttal to biased coverage.

According to the com-

mittee chair, Jonathan Calof, "the new role of media monitoring is to provide the members of our local community with the tools, information and assistance they need. It is the responsibility of all Jews to respond to lies, misinformation, bias and inaccuracies. The Media Monitoring Committee wants to assist the community in doing this."

For more information, to be added to the email list or to inquire about seminars contact Jonathan Calof (228-0509 or [ciprof@hotmail.com](mailto:ciprof@hotmail.com)).

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## FEATURE

# Half a century later, a survivor returns to the camps

By Elliott Marshall

I believe it was *besheit* (meant to be) that Barry Davis and I should meet. And that this survivor and I should confront our feelings about the Holocaust together.

My wife, Helen, and I moved to Ottawa in December 1998. In April 1999, we attended the Yom HaShoah ceremony at Beth Shalom Synagogue, where Barry Davis was the keynote speaker. Then our paths crossed at Machzikei Hadas Synagogue, where we are both members. Also, we discovered that we both

resided at the Riviera Apartments. We then found that we had a lot of other things in common.

We're about the same age, we're both golf nuts and we both attend services on Shabbat. Also, our wives met and clicked. I am a passionate Jew, sensitive and very emotionally affected by the Holocaust, the darkest chapter in the history of our people. When I resided in Cape Breton I talked to schools about Holocaust history, brought in survivors whenever I could, and strongly advocated that Holocaust studies be imple-

mented in the curriculum at the high school level. I feel a responsibility to keep the subject alive, especially to youth.

Barry and I have had many talks about his experiences during the Second World War especially during the years 1943-45 and how it affected his life as a youth aged 14 - 16. He had chosen not to talk about this chapter of his life till he spoke that night on Yom HaShoah. He hadn't wanted to impose these terrible times on his children, but realized over the years how

(Continued on page 22)



Elliott Marshall (left) and Barry Davis in the courtyard at Matheson.

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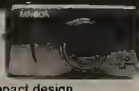
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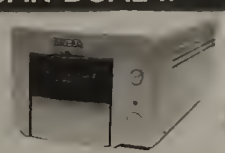
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## FEATURE

# Half a century later, a survivor returns to the camps

(Continued from page 21)  
important it was that this chapter of history be told. He just didn't want to be the one to tell it.

One of the many things I admire about this man is that when I started bombarding him with questions, as I am famous for, he would never refuse to answer me because he knew my deep feelings about the subject. What I found remarkable is that he doesn't appear to be angry or bitter that he was caught in the web of the Nazi net, having had to suffer such dreadful events as a youth instead of getting an education and looking forward to a career. In contrast, I was born in Canada with all the advantages that come with it (it is only a stroke of fate that my parents emigrated to Canada in 1910 from Belarus). And yet he tries to console me when my feelings for seeking revenge against all Nazi perpetrators overwhelm me. He says, "Don't stop what you are doing, keep telling the story. But life goes on."

When asked the inevitable question why he was chosen to survive, his answer is, "Call it luck, call it anything you want - I never stopped from the day I was liberated at Ebensee at 16, alone, with no guidance,

to ask myself this question. I quickly and instinctively looked ahead, steadfast and determined to rehabilitate myself, get a 'Life', find a future and go on living."

Barry told me many people had asked him how he felt about religion after going through what he did. "Coming from a religious family background in the region of East Europe where we lived, after the war I admit I got away from it, also in Israel, and when I first arrived in Canada," he said. "But I was always conscious of it."

"When I came to Ottawa, I owe getting back to religion to the Ottawa Jewish Community, my wife Selma, Rabbi Bulka and Machzikei Hadas shul. I am not a strictly observant Jew, but I realize the importance of belief in God, keeping the faith, especially when bringing up a family, and having an attachment to spiritual experience."

Helen and I planned to take a two-week trip to Vienna, Prague, Budapest and Baden last October. Knowing that Barry was from Czechoslovakia and had been interned at Mathausen and Ebensee in Austria, where he was liberated, and that he had not returned to Europe since he had left,

we mentioned to him that he should consider coming along. He said he'd think about it. Then his four daughters convinced their mother that it could be important for Barry to return to Europe to put closure to that chapter in his life.

Now for some background information on Ebensee. On November 18, 1943, the SS opened a concentration camp in the village of Ebensee in upper Austria. The camp was one of more than 40 sub-camps of the concentration camp in Mathausen where prisoners had to work for the German War Industry. In a very short period of time, the prisoners had to drive gigantic subterranean tunnels into the mountain.

Relocated into these tunnels, the rocket research centre was supposedly safe from air raids.

Surviving prisoners remember Ebensee to be one of the worst camps of all. During the last weeks of the Nationalist Socialist regime, this camp was completely overloaded with evacuees from other concentration camps and thus became a starvation camp. This is the camp where Barry was incarcerated for 1 1/2 years, until May 6, 1945, the day of the liberation.

We walked the courtyard at Mathausen and then the tunnels at Ebensee. As thoughts rushed through Barry's mind, he murmured, "Life is but a dream." He went on to recall, "We

assembled in the yard, they took roll-call three times a day, then it was twice a day. One day at a time was my primary objective. I would have a pep talk with myself, trying to think out a plan for the best way to survive the day. Get through the day, I would advise myself, watch each step, watch each move the guard makes, stay away from him, do your work, pace yourself, and don't congregate in a group. I tried to outwit the guards' tactics at all times.

"Then another sleep, another bite of food - next day it do it over again. It wasn't a matter of hope or courage, because in a matter of minutes a wrong look by the wrong guard your life is over."

Barry felt that consider-

ing the status of the camp, had it not been liberated when it was, he probably would not have survived beyond another week.

Barry eventually moved to Israel where he fought in the War of Independence. This was another tough episode in his life, but at least he was motivated by a legitimate cause, a purpose, a homeland for the Jewish people. He remained in Israel for 1 1/2 years before deciding to move to Canada. He arrived with a pair of jeans, a change of underwear and perhaps the equivalent of \$10 in Canadian currency - but with hope and a thirst for knowledge.

"Life here is a piece of cake," he thought to himself. And he has never looked back.



Rabbi Mitchell R. Cohen  
Director

## OTTAWA VAAD HAKASHRUT

November 24, 2000

As of this date the following organizations hold licence with the Ottawa Vaad HaKashrut. Names in the middle denote contact, names in italics denote Head Mashgiach. A \* next to the company name denotes that organization is located at or in proximity of the Jewish Community Campus of Ottawa.

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\*Hillel Academy 722-0020  
\*Hillel Lodge 728-3900

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## OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

### Off the beaten track

# B'nai Brith Bowling League still going strong after 40 years

By Diane Koven

If you should happen to stop by McArthur Bowling Lanes on a Wednesday evening, you'd find a large and enthusiastic group of bowlers, members of the B'nai Brith Ottawa Bowling League. Bowlers of all ages, from twenty-something to over 80, converge on the lanes faithfully, week after week, year after year.

Irv Hoffman, league president, says the league has been going strong for at least 40 years. At 81 years young, Morris Lang is the league's senior member, having joined in the 1950s. There have been a few changes over the years, such as the change from five-pin to ten-pin, but the group has always met at McArthur Lanes and always on Wednesday nights.

At the beginning of the year, the teams are made up using a handicap system to provide as fair a competition as possible. After that, if any-



MEMBERS OF THE B'NAI BRITH BOWLING LEAGUE (from left to right): Eric Weisbloom, Mel Schafer and Irv Hoffman.

one new joins, whichever team needs a player gets the new recruit. "Most people just bowl once a week, on Wednesday evenings," says Hoffman. "For most of the players, it's just a fun night out. Some of the guys get together for a drink afterwards." Norman Schweitzer is an exception. According to Hoffman, Schweitzer is the

only league member to have had a perfect game. "He is a very serious bowler," says Hoffman.

Norman's brother, Irwin Schweitzer, is not so serious. "It is a nice way to spend some time doing something I enjoy and kibbitzing with some like-minded people," he says.

With 10 teams of four

and a few "extras" who come to try out the league, the league has nearly reached its capacity of 50. "When I first wanted to join," says Hoffman, "I had to wait two years to get in; there was a waiting list."

Recently, the league was host to the 58th Annual Canadian B'nai Brith Association Tournament. Teams

from Montreal, Toronto, Detroit and Windsor made up the nearly 100 bowlers. Last year, a team from Ottawa participated in the International Tournament in Las Vegas.

Annual membership fees in the league include 32 weeks of bowling – never on a Jewish holiday – and the end-of-year banquet. "We are

competitive, but not cut-throat," says Hoffman. "We don't bowl for money, just for the pride and the trophies awarded at the end of each year."

Anyone interested in checking out the league is welcome to drop by the McArthur Lanes on a Wednesday night at 6:30 and give it a try.

### Employment Opportunity OFFICE ASSISTANT

Not for profit national organization seeks a self-starting, multi-tasking individual. Mix of secretarial tasks, reception, support for communications department. Must have excellent computer and writing skills and the ability to work in a fast-paced, high-demand environment. Familiarity with Jewish community issues important. Send CV to:

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Myra Aronson, for editorial purposes ext. 264  
Jessica Marks, for advertising, subscriptions and other business matters ext. 256  
Brenda Van Vleet, for desktop publishing and production matters ext. 275

# First annual UJA Hands On

Despite the unfortunate bad weather on Sunday, November 26, over 100 people came out to bring warmth and sunshine into the lives of many recipients.

Toiletries were sorted for delivery to seven area shelters; 400 sandwiches were made for two area missions; 200 information kits were collated for a community health centre; seniors were assisted in their homes; meals were prepared for Tamir residents; close to 50 people registered at the Blood Donor Clinic; and the residents of Hillel Lodge enjoyed an interactive craft program as well as entertainment provided by A Touch of Klez.

## Mitzvah Day Committee

Sarah Beutel - Chair

Ilana Albert-Novick

Lynne Ben-Ami

Lisa Giffin

Launa Green

Yaffa Greenbaum

Jacquie Manchevsky

Alex Mordfield

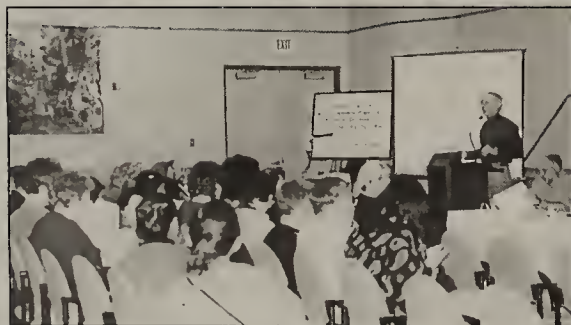
Maxine Rabinovitch

Shari Ritter

Jennifer Rosenberg

Rhea Wohl

Shelli Kimmel -  
UJA Event Coordinator



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Hillel Academy  
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Ottawa Modern Jewish School  
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Ganon Pre-School  
Reconstructionist Havura  
NCSY  
Jewish Students Association  
Hillel Lodge



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# Mitzvah Day a great success!



**The organizers would like to thank  
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Pharmasave Westboro Pharmacy  
Bells Corners Guardian Drugs  
A Touch of Klez

**All the many volunteers  
and staff who donated items  
and participated.  
You made the day a success.**

## ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE



BOYS TOWN STUDENTS Avrohom Datash (left) of Ethiopia and David Yehuda of France enjoy sufganiyot (jelly doughnuts) at a school Chanukah party.

### Jelly doughnuts "gel" an international friendship

While sufganiyot (jelly doughnuts) are a traditional Chanukah treat (some explain because they are laden with enough oil to last eight days), the main theme of Chanukah is the celebration of religious freedom.

The Syrian/Greeks outlawed the practice of nu-

merous Jewish rituals, but most important, the study of Torah, the very essence of the survival of the Jewish people.

At Boys Town Jerusalem, Chanukah takes on added meaning. In addition to the festivities, students mark the centrality of Torah

study by participating in a special contest testing their knowledge of the history, laws and customs of Chanukah. For many students from such countries as Russia, Iran and Ethiopia, this new-found religious freedom is truly cause for celebration.

## Show solidarity with Israeli hostages held by Hizbullah

On October 7, 2000, Hizbullah kidnapped three IDF soldiers; Avraham Binyamin, Omer Suad and Adi Avitan. Their location and condition remain unknown.

All Jews are encouraged to raise their voices in solidarity with these Israeli soldiers, their families and the government and people of Israel, by writing letters to the Prime Minister and the UN Secretary General.

You may use the sample letter below. In addition you will find on the United Jewish Communities website at [www.ujc.org](http://www.ujc.org) a petition form, fact sheet and message board related to the kidnapping.

Dear: .....

Your help is vital in securing the safe return of three Israeli soldiers kidnapped on October 7 while on operational duty along the Israel-

Lebanon border and taken by Hizbullah guerrillas into Lebanese territory.

The abduction of these soldiers is a blatant violation of the agreements achieved between Israel and Lebanon as part of UN Resolution 425, aimed by Hizbullah at undermining stability throughout the region and killing the chance for a diplomatic solution in the Middle East.

We hold the governments of Syria and Lebanon solely responsible for the kidnappings, and demand that Syria and Lebanon act with determination for the immediate release and return home of the Israelis they illegally hold as prisoners.

As Jews, we are taught that redeeming the captive is a duty of the highest priority. Therefore, we call on you and the international com-

munity to fully condemn the abduction of the Israeli soldiers and urge that you do all within your means to assist in resolving the terrible plight of these young men and their waiting families.

Israel should not stand alone in its struggle against the Hizbullah, which poses an international terror threat. As long as the Hizbullah's infrastructure is operational, anyone is a potential target of their terrorism.

Yours truly,  
Address your letters to: The Prime Minister, House of Commons, Ottawa, K1A 0A2 (no postage necessary) and Secretary General Kofi Annan, United Nations, New York, N.Y. 10017, USA.

**The Ottawa Shoah Remembrance Committee and The Embassy of Israel invite the Jewish Community to the exhibit**  
**VISA FOR LIFE: Diplomats who Rescued Jews**



**Opening Night Reception: January 4, 7:00 pm**  
Exhibition continuing until January 14, 2001  
Soloway Jewish Community Centre  
Zelikovitz Families Social Hall

For more information please call Rebecca Holzman, Communications Coordinator, Jewish Community Council at 798-4696 ext. 234.

### Attention university students

After a great semester of excellent speakers, delicious Shabbat dinners and fun social events, the Jewish Students Association is looking forward to an excellent second session.

If you have any ideas or can help organize events, feel free to give us a call (236-2345) or stop by our cozy office at 109 Osgoode at King Edward. You can also reach us by e-mail at [jsaottawa@home.com](mailto:jsaottawa@home.com).

## Mazal Tov!

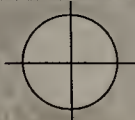
It's a girl!

Gila and Daron Green are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Sivana Etel, born on October 8, 2000 in Jerusalem, Israel. A new baby sister for Aryeh. Very proud grandparents are Ruth and Uri Tal of Ottawa and great-grandparents Percy Addelman and the late Etel Addelman. B.H.



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## FEATURE

# Jared MacKay's Images of Israel

*Editor's note: This past summer, Henu Nadel took her children on a three-week visit to Israel. Her son, Jared MacKay, 17, a Grade 12 student in Literary Arts at Canterbury High School and a member of the Ottawa Reconstructionist Havura Band, composed the following poems about his trip.*

## Stranger

On the bus,  
a couple speak Hebrew,  
in a country  
where my language  
is rarely spoken  
I am a stranger  
among my own people.

## Jerusalem

Jerusalem is about to topple,  
to slide off the hills  
where it rests  
in ceaseless sun.  
The houses, built in levels,  
will crush each other  
in a landslide  
of bathtubs, toasters and ironing  
boards  
(that cost twice as much  
as at home).

## South Wind, A Ghazal

Translation creates confusion.  
Palm trees sway in heavy breezes  
that bring only moisture.  
No relief from the heat.

Imitations carved in stone  
pass themselves as haute-couture.

We revel in the mediocrity of archi-  
tecture.  
Perfect concrete cubes spring up  
like mushrooms. A blight upon the  
perfect sea-shore sky line.

## Deserts

When you think of deserts,  
do you think of stone,  
towering and impenetrable,  
ancient heights unscalable?

Do you think of texture,  
wind blown patterns,

and cliffs that twist  
across parched valleys  
carved by eternities of dust?

## Pilgrimage

The holy land  
lies spread before me,  
a pilgrimage composed  
of steel and glass.  
Bedouin expectations  
are smashed  
on busy concrete streets  
(more Israelis die  
in cars  
than balls  
of God fire).

## An Israeli Soldier at a Bus Stop

She stands in front of me,  
she dares me to notice her.  
I stare down into my book,  
embarrassed.  
I want to tell her  
that I don't speak her language,  
that her gun  
intimidates me  
(but also kinda turns me on...)

## Horizon

In Canada  
"as far as the eye can see"  
means to the next forest  
or mountain  
or city  
that crests the horizon.

## In Israel

it's where the desert,  
dry and brown into the distance,  
fades to blue  
and becomes the sky.

## Silence

You read me a poem  
called 'Silence'  
and I laughed  
as you stood there,  
a serene statue.  
But I knew  
that you were serious  
and this was  
only a way  
of saying good-  
bye.

## Filigree

If you were delicate,  
a filigree, exquisite in proportion,  
I would hold you up  
and stare into you,  
make you translucent,  
a stain glass window  
through which  
I'd see you truly.

If you were strong,  
rough canvas on steel,  
I could put my weight on you.  
You would sustain me,  
support me,  
make me whole.

## From a Rooftop in Jerusalem

at 7:30  
The sun,  
still high above the rippling skyline  
warms the breeze,  
an almost wind  
that ruffles hair and leaf alike.  
The buildings,  
perch precarious on  
hillsides, steep and  
treacherous, where mountain goats  
would  
fear to tread: a stifling sun baked  
hike.

I look out on this  
newborn landscape  
verdant with the trees  
that suck the water from the earth  
and fade to brown  
in drawn out summers,  
savouring the scanty  
winter waters.

Shadows cross the sun baked clay  
as daylight seeps away  
across the parched  
and empty desert,  
far beyond prolific seas.

In this calm current  
a blue-starred flag  
reaches out for hills  
and freedom found in emptiness,  
the void religion fills.

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For further information, please contact David Gluzman or Elaine Schachter at 722-2225, extension 318.

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## TRAVEL

# The whos, whats and wheres of Jewish Chicago

By Diane Koven

The city of Chicago provides just about every ingredient necessary for a great vacation. Even with only a few days to explore, I was able to get a real taste of the city on my recent visit.

I arrived in Chicago on a Friday afternoon and spent Shabbat with my cousins who live in a very "Jewish" neighbourhood, so the first two days of sightseeing were done on foot. Within walking distance of their house are numerous synagogues, large and small; a branch of the JCC; and a variety of shops catering to Jewish clientele.

Once I had relocated to a downtown hotel, my first activity was a city bus tour in order to see as many of the highlights of the city as possible and get an idea of what I might like to visit on my own later.

The Magnificent Mile, the aptly named mile-long avenue in the heart of the city, features every well-known store and designer. The window shopping on "The Mile" is almost like being in a fashion museum, but prices are rather high for the average shopper (espe-



Diane Koven (left) with Georgette Spertus, widow of the Spertus Museum founder.

(Photo: Rose Goldstein)

cially the average shopper with Canadian dollars!)

Jewish life in Chicago is thriving – well organized and representative of every possible interest group. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago, highlighted by an exhibit at the Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies, on display until December 31.

The Spertus Museum, located at 618 South Michigan Avenue in the heart of downtown Chicago, is easily accessible on foot from most of the major hotels. It is close to the Chicago Art Institute,

making for an interesting half-day outing. I had the amazing good fortune to arrive at the Spertus at the same moment as Georgette Spertus, widow of the museum's founder, Maurice. She was happy to talk about her late husband's efforts to bring Holocaust artifacts out of Europe and his idea to found a museum to properly house them. Mrs. Spertus, a retired art conservator, pointed out the various exhibits in the museum and urged me to visit the basement where the children's museum is housed.

The main exhibit at the Spertus, until February 11,

this exhibit, historic Torah coverings and ornaments from the museum's collection are also on display.

Shopping for Judaica and kosher goodies is a tour in itself. There are pages of listings in tourist directories (\*see note) for kosher markets and restaurants. A stroll along Devon Avenue was productive; this street is home to a variety of gift shops, book stores and food shops. Rosenblum's World of Judaica, Inc. at 2906 W. Devon Avenue, can be visited without the need for airfare at [www.alljudaica.com](http://www.alljudaica.com). Down the street, Good Morgan Kosher Fish Market has a few seats for those who can't wait to get home to sample their purchases. In nearby Skokie, Ken's Diner is a '50s style American diner, attached to a more modern-day, adult only steak house known as Bugsy's (after the late Chicago-Jewish gangster, Bugsy Siegel.) There are many other kosher restaurants, both for dining in and take-out; there

is even a kosher Dunkin' Donuts shop! What more could a person want?

With some advance planning, and a visit to one of the informational websites, one could enjoy a terrific vacation. Besides the Jewish sites of interest, Chicago is home to Wrigley Field, a variety of museums and galleries, the Second City Comedy Club and even the House of Blues. It's truly a city with something for everyone.

\*Note: Has a trip to Chicago caught your interest? Then a visit to the following websites would be helpful for pre-planning. The *Chicago Jewish News* is a weekly publication which also puts out an annual Guide to "The Whos, Whats and Wheres of Jewish Chicago." Visit its website at [www.chicagojewishnews.com](http://www.chicagojewishnews.com). Another very helpful and informative publication, the monthly *JUF News*, can be viewed at [www.juf.org](http://www.juf.org). It also publishes its annual "Guide to Jewish Living in Chicago."

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## JEWISH FOOD FOR THE SOUL

# Times change and so do Bar Mitzvah ceremonies

By Anne Novack

Recently we received an invitation to a Bar Mitzvah which read, "Let the Festivities Begin". And, indeed, it was a festive affair.

It started with a Shabbos dinner on the Friday night preceding the Bar Mitzvah. The Bar Mitzvah ceremony took place Saturday morning in shul, followed by a kiddush luncheon. That evening, the celebration took place in a hall to which relatives and friends of the parents and the boy were invited. On Sunday, we were invited to a lovely brunch hosted by the boy's parents. We went to all the events and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

In recent years, we have been invited to several Bar and Bat Mitzvah celebrations. They were all beautiful affairs that were in sharp contrast to the kind of Bar Mitzvahs my two brothers had in the "bad" old days, during the time of the Great Depression or the "Dirty '30s" as they were later known.

My father, a religious man, sent his sons to a Yeshiva where he felt they would get a good Hebrew education. Both were well prepared when it came time for them to have their Bar Mitzvahs, which were identical celebrations.

On the day preceding the Bar Mitzvah, my mother baked a honey cake. Very early the next morning (a Thursday), my father and respective son left for the small synagogue which was located in downtown Montreal, a few blocks from the little grocery store where my parents eked out a poor living.



The Bar Mitzvah, illustrated by Anne Novack

The synagogue was converted from a small house. The inner walls had been removed and a raised bimah was built. There were two small oval tables on the bimah. The ark (that held the Torah) occupied part of the wall at the back of the bimah. A light above the bimah symbolized the eternal flame. Long wooden benches for the congregation faced the bimah. A balcony had been built which contained long wooden benches to accommodate the ladies.

The "regulars" who came every morning were already there. The word had got around that there was to be a Bar Mitzvah that morning and they wanted to partake in the refreshments.

My father brought the honey cake and a bottle of schnapps. After my brother recited his portion of the Haftarah, the small "shot"

Mitzvah boy went home. End of celebration!

My 13th birthday passed unnoticed. I did not mind because I understood that my mother was trying to make ends meet. By that time, we had moved out of the store and my father was unemployed. My oldest brother (the oldest child in the family) had a low-paying job and it was his meagre salary that supported the family of four children and our parents.

When my daughter was 13, Bat Mitzvahs were still unheard of. Boys had Bar Mitzvahs and girls had Sweet Sixteen parties.

I made a 13th birthday party for my daughter because we had just moved into a new neighbourhood and I wanted her to meet the neighbourhood kids. The party was not very successful. The little girls wanted to dance and the boys kept slipping away to watch a football game.

Not so a few years later when my daughter had a Sweet Sixteen party. The party took place in our basement which was decorated to look like a café. There were travel posters on the walls. I rented small café tables and chairs and checkered tablecloths. One of the young men brought his guitar and a sing-song ensued.

It was a great party!

When my granddaughter was 12, her parents took her to Israel where she had a Bat Mitzvah atop Masada. My daughter took this opportunity to also have a Bat Mitzvah.

When my granddaughter turned 13, she had a Bat Mitzvah in the synagogue. Relatives from different

parts of Canada and the United States attended. It was followed by a lovely luncheon to which the entire congregation was invited. That evening, a large party took place in their home.

When my husband and I next visit Israel, I, too, plan to have a Bat Mitzvah. It is never too late!

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# ISRAEL

## The current situation in Israel

# Answers to frequently asked questions

**Why is this violence occurring?**

It is no accident that this violence exploded at a time when Israel was expressing its willingness to make unprecedented, far-reaching compromises in order to reach a workable, enduring agreement. Arafat was given a real opportunity to achieve a resolution through negotiations and compromise, and to bring tangible, considerable benefits to the Palestinian people.

But Israel's olive branch was met with a hail of gunfire, rocks and firebombs. Rather than risk being labelled as weak by Palestinian extremists opposed to any form of compromise or conciliation with Israel, Arafat has preferred to cast himself as a heroic resistance fighter. And he has opted to use violence as a negotiating tool.

Let there be no doubt: the visit of Ariel Sharon to Temple Mount late September did not trigger the "uprising." It was just a pretext for a premeditated campaign of violence. Indeed, the present wave of disturbances dates back to mid-September, when firebombs and stones were thrown at Israeli positions at the Netzarim Junction in Gaza. This was followed shortly afterwards by the killing of an Israeli soldier by a roadside bomb at the very same place on September 27. Two days later, an Israeli police officer was murdered by a Palestinian policeman who had served with him on a joint patrol.

At the Camp David sum-

mit, less than three months earlier, Arafat had already demonstrated his preference for violence over balanced compromise by rejecting all proposals advanced by the US government. Israeli Prime Minister Barak, for his part, was willing to consider these proposals. Consequently, President Clinton placed the blame for the failure of the talks squarely at Arafat's feet.

**Is the IDF using excessive force in its response to the violence?**

The oft-repeated charge that Israel has used excessive force is worse than a distortion; it is the opposite of the truth. Israeli soldiers and civilians have been confronted daily with dozens of organized, violent and life-threatening attacks by Palestinians. These attacks have included gunfire directed at residential neighbourhoods, firebombings, parcel and car bombs in crowded shopping areas and violent riots. Under these difficult circumstances, the IDF is acting with the greatest possible restraint, doing its utmost to prevent injury and the loss of life.

Israel has no interest in escalating the violence. To the contrary; Israel believes it is imperative that the Palestinians stop this violence so that both parties can return to the negotiating table. Israel maintains that a just and sustainable solution can be found only through dialogue, not armed conflict. At the same time, the IDF (Israel Defense Forces) has a clear responsibility - to protect Israeli citizens and security

personnel.

**Why are there more Palestinian casualties than Israeli casualties?**

The IDF has done everything in its power to act with restraint in the face of dozens of shootings, riots and other life-threatening acts. Given the widespread violence engulfing the territories, it has been relatively successful in keeping down the number of casualties.

The main reason there are fewer Israeli casualties is that fewer Israelis are involved in the violence. Most violent incidents in the territories have involved hundreds of Palestinian rioters attacking a small handful of Israeli soldiers.

Moreover, Israel rejects the notion that justice can be determined by the relative number of casualties on either side. By way of comparison, casualty totals among the allied forces in the Desert Storm campaign in Iraq, and of the NATO forces in Yugoslavia, were much lower than the Iraqi and Serbian casualty totals - which also included innocent civilians tragically caught in the cross-fire of the conflicts.

**Why are Palestinian children being wounded in the conflict?**

The Palestinians send children to throw the rocks and firebombs at Israeli soldiers. Armed Palestinian policemen and members of the Fatah militia, the Tanzim, often stand just behind this human shield of juvenile "martyrs" and fire at Israeli soldiers, knowing they can

exploit the children's wounds for their propaganda purposes. These macabre operations generally have one purpose: to generate footage of Palestinian casualties in time for the evening news.

The calculated use of children as pawns in the conflict begins in the Palestinian educational system. Palestinian textbooks (many of which have been recently published by the Palestinian Authority itself) openly teach hatred against Israel and Israelis. Palestinian children's television glorifies "martyrdom" in the struggle against Israel. Palestinian children are trained in the use of firearms in summer camps and in youth groups. These tactics, which have been extensively documented by the international media, are gross violations of all existing agreements between Israel and the Palestinians.

**What is Israel's position on a unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state?**

A unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state would not only be a breach of all existing agreements between Israel and the Palestinians, it would also contribute to the escalation of the conflict, the worsening of violence and the destabilization of the entire region.

The Palestinians have the

option of pursuing their national aspirations through peace negotiations aimed at finding a stable, mutually-acceptable solution which will guarantee the security of Palestinians and Israelis alike. The one-sided establishment of a state that is not achieved through negotiations and mutual agreement, cannot be considered legitimate.

**How are the Palestinians faring economically?**

Israel has made substantial efforts since the signing of the Oslo accords to facilitate Palestinian-Israeli economic cooperation in the context of the peace process. As a result, there was a marked expansion of Palestinian trade and employment in Israel, as well as other forms of economic cooperation, from 1994 until the present outbreak of violence.

Israel, in collaboration with the Palestinian Authority, has taken a broad range of actions since 1994 in order to promote and improve the free movement of goods and labour from the Palestinian Authority into Israel. Industrial parks have also been set up in the Palestinian Authority involving substantial Israeli investment and economic incentives. These measures have had a signifi-

cant, positive impact on the Palestinian economy.

Unfortunately, the recent events have led to a sharp decline in economic activity in the area, with economic repercussions for both the Palestinian Authority and Israel. Measures taken to ensure the safety of Israeli citizens in Palestinian-controlled areas - protecting them from atrocities like the lynching in Ramallah - have had an adverse economic impact. At the same time, to prevent the spillover of violence from the territories into Israel, and to minimize the possibility of terrorist attacks, security forces are restricting entry of Palestinians from the territories. Exceptions are made for the movement of commercial goods, food, medicine, ambulances and medical crews. They continue to circulate freely. Moreover, procedures have been simplified to enable speedy delivery to the Palestinian Authority of humanitarian goods, such as medical supplies.

It must be stressed that the purpose of the closure policy is not punitive, but has become necessary to ensure the security of Israeli citizens in these trying times.

(Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, State of Israel)

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## COLUMNS



## Sixty Something

Ruth Weitz

## The immigrants

This is but one of many similar stories except this one I know firsthand because it is the story of my cousins.

G. was an engineer in Russia, a top man in the company he worked for. He considered himself well off. He had a three-room apartment, enough to eat, a working wife who taught school and a 16-year-old son.

One day he was invited to work on a project in East Germany that included his attending a ceremony when the job was finished. It was an exciting time. The engineer had a new suit made for the occasion and his wife made a going-away party.

A few days before he was to leave, a KGB man called him. "I am calling as a friend because I've known you personally for a long time and I like you. You will not be permitted to leave the country." G's hair stood on end as the man continued: "You are Jewish and have relatives in Israel."

"How do you know that?" G. asked.

"You correspond with them. That is in our file. The KGB knows everything about you. You must appreciate what a good friend I am and never tell anyone what I just told you. I would be out on my ear - or worse. I'm repeating to you. Russia will not let you out of the country."

While G. and his wife were discussing the matter, their son intervened. The young man had qualified with top honours at the university but Russian officials denied him, a Jew, entrance to the school of his choice. He wanted to study aeronautic engineering but was told he must take structural engineering in the school they selected. Now he said to his parents: "There is no future for me in Russia. I will never be able to do what I want to do. What I want now is for all of us to leave this country."

The parents were aghast. "We have it good here. Why should we leave? So study what they want." The response from their son was vehement. "This is not freedom," he said. "I must be free to learn and do whatever I want. I want us to be together, but if you will not consent to leave Russia, I will. Without you if I have to."

He was an only child whom they loved "beyond their own life" and after days of discussion the decision to leave together was made. There was no difficulty because they were among the first wave of Jews who were allowed to leave Russia about 12 years ago.

Previously, they had been harassed to sign an "oath of secrecy" but they kept stalling, knowing if they signed they would be "lost in Russia" with no way to ever get out. Israel was the only country to which a Jew was allowed to emigrate, but this family had an uncle who had come to Canada a few years earlier. He had been pleading with them to join him in this "wonderful free country". Their ultimate destination therefore was Canada. But how to get there? They announced they were going to Israel. Through a very roundabout way and passing through several countries they finally reached Canada.

Today they are living in Vancouver. The son graduated from engineering school with honours, married a Canadian girl who practises law, has two sons of his own, a big house, and is grateful to Canada for his success and happiness.

The parents who thought they had everything they needed in Russia now know better. They told me they have but one big regret: "That we didn't leave Russia years ago."

## Art Works / Rose Ann Hoffenberg

## Two remarkable patrons - the Cone sisters of Baltimore

When the art critic, Louis Vauxcelles, saw the riotous-coloured canvases hanging on the walls of the Paris Salon in 1905, he shouted, "wild beasts". The name Fauves (wild beasts) remained with the authors of those exuberant works for only a few years. However, the undisputed leader of Fauvism, Henri Matisse, continued to paint in bold colours until he died in 1954.

Seventy-eight remarkable works by Matisse are on view at the Art Gallery of Ontario until January 14, 2001. One of them, his famous painting *Blue Nude (Memory of Biskra)*, caused a sensation when exhibited at the 1907 Salon des Indépendants. The painter's inspiration for this early 20th-century masterpiece came from the light, the colour and the beauty he saw when he visited Algeria. The reclining nude with her exaggerated hip echoes the shape of the palm leaves in the background - both symbols of fertility.

In this same painting, you will notice the artist's struggle to represent the three-dimensional character of his model and yet the North African light bleaches colour, flattens form and reduces everything to two dimensions. You will see that in a later work entitled *Large Reclining Nude* the artist resolves this dilemma by abandoning the attempt at three dimension, his figure being simplified, flat and monumental in her abstract setting.

The collection belonged

to the Cone sisters of Baltimore before they willed it to the Baltimore Museum of Art. A phrase in Claribel's will, "in the event the spirit of appreciation for modern art in Baltimore becomes improved," reminds us that Matisse's canvases looked shocking nearly 100 years ago. The cosmopolitan collectors may also have been thought of as 'wild beasts' in their day for they were eccentric women of great learning and outstanding individuality.

Dr. Claribel Cone, one of the first woman doctors in America, has been described as "just a few inches over five feet high, with large hands and feet and a marked tendency to spread out below the waist, she had a great sense of style. She invariably wore black, but she fancied theatrical accessories, often putting them together in combinations that stopped just short of the ridiculous. At the opera she would appear with silver skewers from India in her hair, massive Renaissance jewelry upon her bosom, mountains of shawls from Spain and the Orient draped over her shoulder."

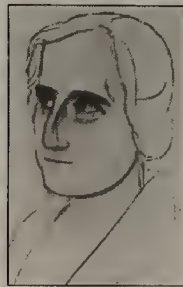
Elta, Claribel's sister, bought the first painting directly from Matisse in 1906, which began a 30 year patronage of one of the masters of 20th century art. The family textile business gave them a substantial private income and probably inspired their attraction to "the



The Cone sisters

exotic settings Matisse conjured in his studio from memories gained in Morocco of odalisques surrounded by richly patterned carpets and colourful draperies."

Claribel died in 1929. The war years ended Elta's trips to Europe but she continued to purchase sporadically until she died in 1949. The exhibition at the AGO celebrates these two extraordinary women in the context of Matisse's legacy.



Elta Cone



Dr. Claribel Cone



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## COLUMNS

# Try these latke variations



## Soup to Nuts

Donna Karlin

For Chanukah I always make traditional potato latkes, but like to add at least one variation on the theme as well. Remember that the whole idea of the holiday is to celebrate the miracle of the small amount of oil that lasted eight days, so to make a latke without the oil loses something in the translation. Instead of eliminating the oil, try reducing the number of latkes you eat or try the recipe for low fat latkes which are still fried, but in less oil. Enjoy! Happy Chanukah!

### Low Fat Latkes

3 cups cubed peeled russet potato  
2 tbsp flour  
1/4 tsp baking powder  
1/2 tsp salt  
1/4 tsp pepper  
2 egg whites  
1 small onion, quartered  
1 tbsp vegetable oil, divided  
6 tbsp low fat sour cream  
Sliced green onions

Place the potato, flour, baking powder, salt, pepper, egg whites and small onion in a food processor fitted with the steel blade. Pulse 20 times or until potato is very finely chopped. Heat 1/2 tsp oil in large non-stick frying pan over medium-high heat. Spoon about 1 heaping tbsp batter per pancake into

pan and cook 1 1/2 minutes on each side or until browned. Repeat with remaining oil and batter. Serve pancakes with sour cream mixed with sliced green onion. You can freeze these on a foil or waxed paper lined cookie sheet. Once frozen they can be transferred to freezer bags. To reheat, place in preheated 400° oven in single layer on a foil or parchment lined cookie sheet until hot and crisp. Watch carefully so they don't burn. If warming on foil, spray lightly with Pam before placing latkes on sheets.

### Zucchini Potato Latkes with Parmesan

2 lb zucchini  
1/2 lb russet potatoes, peeled  
1 1/2 tsp lemon juice  
1 cup chopped green onion  
1 clove garlic, finely chopped  
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese  
1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley  
1 tsp salt  
1/2 tsp freshly ground pepper  
1/8 cup flour or matzo meal  
3 eggs  
Vegetable oil for frying

Grate zucchini and potatoes and mix with lemon juice to prevent browning. Squeeze the zucchini and potatoes through a sieve to get all the moisture out of the vegetables so the latkes will be crisp. Mix in scallions, cheese, garlic, parsley, salt and pepper, flour or matzo meal and eggs and mix very well. Heat 1/2" of oil and fry about 1 tbsp batter per pancake until brown and crispy.

### Southwestern Style Potato Latkes

1 1/2 lb russet potatoes peeled  
2 large eggs, lightly beaten



2 tbsp flour (or more) or matzo meal  
1 1/2 tsp salt  
Freshly ground black pepper to taste  
1/8 tsp hot red pepper (optional) OR chopped jalapeno pepper to taste  
2 tbsp chopped cilantro and scallion, mixed  
Vegetable oil for frying  
Roasted red peppers and salsa for garnish

Grate the potatoes. Place in sieve and squeeze all moisture out. Beat eggs with flour, cilantro, scallion, salt, freshly ground pepper and hot red pepper or chopped jalapeno if using. Stir in drained potatoes and mix well. In a large frying pan, heat 1/4" of oil over medium high heat until hot. Drop heaping 1/2 cup of potato mixture and cook for 3 to 4 minutes a side. Eat right away or keep warm in oven. Serve topped with slivers of roasted red pepper and salsa on the side for dipping.

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## Chanukah 2: Just for the fun of it



### Kid Lit

Deanna Silverman

Chanukah, one of our most joyous holidays, commemorates serious events: the victory of Judah Maccabee and his small band of Jewish warriors over mighty King Antiochus and his Syrian-Greek armies; the recapture and rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem; and that miraculous tiny cruse of oil that burned for eight days and eight nights.

Yet its celebration is totally home-based, with a child's toy and game as one of its prime ingredients. In many cities, Chanukah's outreach to the external world has gone beyond the usual lighting of our candles in front of a window to lighting giant outdoor and/or shopping mall-based menorahs.

Small wonder, then, that over recent years many Kid Lit Chanukah books have also reached out to the external world, often with gentle and not-so-gentle self-mockery and humour. The following two books are splendid examples of that style of holiday book.

#### *The Runaway Latkes*

By Leslie Kimmelman  
Illustrated by Paul Yalowitz  
Albert Whitman & Company 2000  
Unpagged Ages 4 - 8

Children and adults familiar with the story of *The Gingerbread Man*, will immediately recognize *The Runaway Latkes* as an ingenious urban update with a Jewish flavour and a miraculous happy ending.

With the first night of Chanukah hours away, latke expert Rebecca Bloom sings as she fries her first batch of potato pancakes for the synagogue party. The instant they

are done, however, three latkes leap from the pan and take off to see the town singing their own version of Rebecca's song.

In no time at all the rabbi, the cantor, two boys, the mayor, a dog, and two hungry police officers join Rebecca and her cat in pursuit of the latkes. All ends happily in a "perfect bath for three crispy latkes" and a joyous synagogue party with plenty of latkes for all.

Young children will particularly enjoy the cumulative nature of the storytelling as each character joins the chase and the several versions of Rebecca's catchy cooking song.

Paul Yalowitz's full colour illustrations flesh out the humorous details of the chase. Additional bonuses include a brief note about Chanukah and the recipe for Rebecca's big and round, crisp and brown latkes. *The Runaway Latkes*, mmm mmm good.

#### *The Flying Latke*

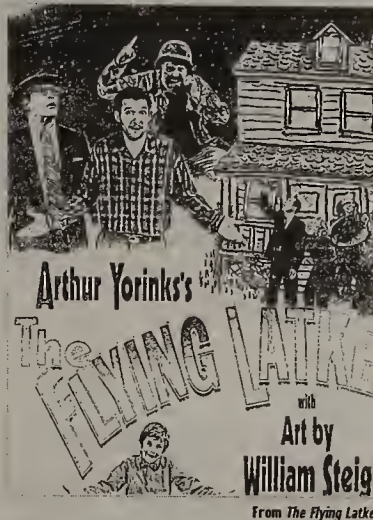
By Arthur Yorinks  
Art by William Steig  
Photo Illustrations by Phil Colin & Arthur Yorinks  
Simon & Schuster Books For Young Readers 1999  
Unpagged Ages 5 and up

Moving from gentle humour to broad farce, brace yourself for belly-laughs with Arthur Yorinks's *The Flying Latke*. Presented as a new concept in children's picture books, Yorinks dramatizes the illustrations as though presenting the story as a stage play rather than a book.

Think of the illustrations as sets and backdrops, with characters and action depicted in the foreground using comic photographs of the "actors."

As for the story, it is totally outlandish but with enough familiar elements of the shtick that occurs in an extended family to make it work.

You see, whenever Danny's nutty family gets together there's always trouble. But last Chanukah was the worst, and the best. When dinner is finally served on the first night of Chanukah, Uncles Izzy and Sheeky get into a huge argument over a Buick. Or was it a Ford?



Insults escalate to warfare. Food is the weapon of choice and one thrown latke zooms out the open window. Oi voh! The Air Force announces the sighting of a UFO and prepares to shoot it down. The FBI appears at the door. Hordes of reporters and onlookers lay siege to the house.

And this mishugge family, that can't get along for five minutes, is forced to camp out at Danny's for the eight days of Chanukah. As for *The Flying Latke* also known as the UFO, its eventual return is one of the three miracles that make for an amazing ending and a happy Chanukah. Parents, don't worry. This latke recipe is not included!

From my family to yours, we wish you an awesome and joyous Chanukah.

  
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#### Low Fat Latkes

- 4 cups peeled and grated potatoes
- 1 cup grated onion
- 2 egg whites
- Salt and pepper
- 2 tsp vegetable oil or baking spray

Preheat oven to 375°. Combine potatoes and onions and squeeze out excess liquid. Combine with egg whites, salt and pepper. Grease baking sheet. Drop 2 tbsp at a time onto pan and flatten into 2 inch circles. Bake 10 minutes per side until browned and crisped on both sides. Serve with ASTRO light sour cream. Makes 16.

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## COLUMNS

# Sometimes our community institutions really get it right

Take Hillel Lodge. One day this past September, Executive Director Stephen Schneiderman and his crew moved 48 residents to their brand-new facility on Nadorln Sachs Private. Staff at the old Wurttemberg Street location helped residents onto a series of Para Transpo buses, while others helped them disembark at the Nadorln Sachs end. Each was greeted with a personal "welcome home" upon arrival in the lobby. Incredibly, even hot meals were ready.

By the end of the day, residents were secure in their beds, their belongings stored in their closets and dressers. I'm sure there were glitches along the way, but none was apparent to the families and friends recruited to help in the effort. Schneiderman and his staff deserve a hearty *yasher koach* from the entire community for their extremely capable work in planning and executing what was obviously a very complex move.

My mother-in-law, Fanny Friedberg, is a resident of the Lodge. She arrived there after spending two months in the Queensway-Carleton Hospital, where she had been rushed by ambulance after collapsing in my front hallway. When Fanny's condition finally turned around, it became apparent that her health had deteriorated so badly that she would never be able to return to her apartment.

When a parent declines into old age, it's not unusual for a dramatic role reversal to take place. The child takes on the role of the parent, and vice-versa. The child assumes responsibility for decision-making in any and all areas of the parent's life; trivial and consequential. Depending on the situation, one can also be responsible for carrying out basic tasks, including feeding and even toileting. It's an extremely uncomfortable role reversal, to say the least, embarrassing and even humiliating to the parent and child alike.

But what else can you do? It's not some stranger you're talking about. When the situation first starts to deteriorate, you try to leave your parent in his or her home, or you bring the parent to live with you. You make adaptations to your parent's surroundings and routine (and yours), to ensure safety. You make arrangements for caregivers (if you can afford to), so you can carry on with your household tasks, your children, your spouse, your paid job, and your outside interests.

That may work in the beginning, but it usually doesn't last for long. Slowly but surely, the load grows. So do the costs. Caregiver fees, and the wages you lose when you have to leave work to take your parent to yet another specialist, or rush home to handle yet another emergency, take their toll. Not only on you, but on your spouse and children as well.

Eventually, you realize you can no longer cope, and you search out options for institutional care. The decision itself is difficult, but the real fun has only begun. It's not like you



## How I see it

Bob Dale

can phone somebody and book a room at the nursing home of your choice. The application process can be confusing, arduous, and invasive. And it's often quite prolonged.

In the interim, you make additional stopgap arrangements, which regularly change when your parent's health deteriorates to its next level. You wonder if you'll ever get a day off. You wonder why your siblings don't seem to have the time to back you up, if only for a few hours. There just isn't enough time in the day to do everything you have to do. And there is *always* more to do.

Then comes the call. Your parent has finally been admitted.

End of story? No. Without question, Hillel Lodge provides top quality care. But it's institutional care, not dedicated personal care. And as a result of financial constraints and staff shortages, it sometimes falls short of what the dedicated staff at the Lodge (and other seniors' homes) would like to offer. Furthermore, while your priority is your parent, the Lodge must balance your demands against the needs of its other residents. You may have a more or less one-dimensional view of whose needs should be given priority, but the Lodge just can't.

Then there is the guilt. Your parents looked after you, as an infant, as a child, and during your difficult teen years. They were there when, as an adult, you had problems to discuss and issues you couldn't handle. They were there when you needed somewhere to go for the High Holidays, or for a hot meal and some friendly conversation. They welcomed you home when your marriage broke up, and you needed to move back for a while to get a handle on things. Your parents were *always* there for you, no matter what.

And then you dumped them in an institution, when they really needed you.

Can you turn to Judaism to help you cope? As most people know, the fifth of the Ten Commandments requires chil-

dren to honour their parents. According to our rabbis, the definition of "honouring one's parent" most certainly extends to taking care of them when they are ill or old. The sages go on to say that this means feeding, clothing, and dressing your parents as well as taking them "in and out of a room" when they aren't capable of doing these things themselves.

However, the rabbis were also aware that not every child is capable of doing everything that has to be done in such situations. The Talmud therefore goes on to say that children who are unable to deal with these responsibilities must hire trained, experienced people to perform them. No question about it, that's perfectly consistent with what happens when you hire caregivers, or reach the difficult decision to place your parent in a nursing home.

Is it enough to ease the guilt burden? I'm not sure. But do me a favour. The next time you leave the Soloway JCC after working out or attending a meeting, walk over to Hillel Lodge. Take the elevator up to one of the floors, and say hello to my mother-in-law or one of the other residents. They'll really appreciate it.

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## COLUMNS

## For our children and our future

Every holiday that combines strong national and religious elements - Chanukah and Purim, Pesach and Simchat Torah - is celebrated in a way that involves direct, lively, and emotional appeals to our children. This is a major clue to Jewish survival, a contrast to the great empires and cultures that sought our destruction but are now remembered only by their ruins and in the works of historians and archaeologists.

Chanukah, which commemorates national and religious struggles against the paganism of the Syrac Hellenistic empire, prompts us to consider the ways in which children can be brought to love and understand their Jewish heritage. A number of websites provide ideas and material for helping young children begin this journey.

A good place to start is the Reform family site, which I've mentioned before (<http://uahe.org/educate/parent/index.html>). This time, I wanted to check on how it presented Chanukah. At the time I wrote this column, the Chanukah material for 2000 wasn't yet posted, but the 1999 version was still available. It shows what to expect. It includes prayers and songs, recipes, and, most notably, an eight-night check-list of suggested family activities for the holiday.

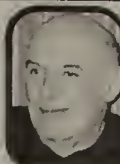
The Jewish Theological Seminary site has a special section oriented to children's fun and learning (<http://learn.jtsa.edu/topics/kids/>). It is divided into four sections: a holiday colouring book; material on each of the holidays; Jewish kids' book reviews; and basic material to help children learn about Judaism. The last category features an excellent, interactive, "geography of the siddur" section to help children find their way around the prayer book. The colouring book contains a parent's guide for each holiday, plus holiday posters (including printable colouring book versions) developed for the gender equality project of the Solomon Schechter Day School in Philadelphia.

A kit of Chanukah materials can be accessed through the JTA kids' site holiday section. This kit contains everything that parents and children need to enjoy the holiday together: instructions for making your own dreidel, the rules of the dreidel game (s'vivon), holiday lore, lists of suggestions for other activities, songs, and recipes. If you are lost for ideas on how to enjoy your Chanukah celebration, or on new twists to add to your familiar Chanukah routines, the Reform and JTA sites should leave you wondering no longer.

The last site is a more general fun and education site for younger children, "Torah Tots" (<http://www.torah tots.com/home.htm>). This is a visually attractive traditional site, which uses every Internet trick in the book to achieve its purpose - to show that "[Jewish] learning is fun". I clicked on that phrase in the menu ribbon (top of the home page) and sampled a few items. The section for learning the Alef Bet provided printable colouring book pages for each Hebrew letter, plus a half-dozen sheets, with English lettering and translation, each with an object starting with a particular letter (e.g. 'sus', for 'horse', under the letter 'samech').

"Learning is fun" also contained introductions to prayers and materials on holidays. I checked in the latter for Chanukah. The colourful page, accompanied by the music for *Ma'oz Tsur*, offered a great many options: the Chanukah story, a colouring book for the holiday, a section on the dreidel, and four more games (including the Replace the Latka quiz - a test of Chanukah knowledge).

Many sections were accompanied by additional material for parents to help them participate with their kids in a truly joyous holiday learning experience. Other parts of the Torah Tots site seem to use variations of the same techniques - stories, colouring books, quizzes and games - to extend the joy of being Jewish to children, particularly those in kindergarten

Global Shtetl  
The Jewish Internet

Saul Silverman

and primary school.

This site is a winner and can be used by parents and teachers, even if they don't share the Orthodox orientations of Reuven A. Stone and Menachem Z. Shimonowitz, who developed this site. Their joyful approach to their task is basic and helps unite us in our common effort.

Enjoy Chanukah with your loved ones, especially your children and/or grandchildren. And may the lights of the menorah never dim!

*Note: As addresses tend to be lengthy, some have been hyphenated when extended to another line. Readers should ignore hyphens unless there is a specific note that the hyphens are in the original address.*

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We are taking this opportunity to invite those who care about the Lodge and its future to join our growing membership.

Every year, at this time, we celebrate the tradition of Chanukah, The Festival of Lights, and begin our Annual (2001) Membership Campaign. Like the miracle of Chanukah, your membership allows our limited resources to grow thereby adding a quality of life to the years of our Residents. It helps the Lodge cover expenses for essentials that the government does not currently consider. Important items such as Kosher food, High Holiday Services, freilachs and haimeshe programs. These essentials make The Ottawa Jewish Home for the Aged a special place, a legacy to be cherished and protected for our parents, families and community.

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The Board of Directors of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation acknowledges with thanks contributions to the following as at November 22, 2000.

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In memory of Faye Drazin by Irving and Ruth Aaron.

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Mazel Tov to Rose Simon on her special birthday by Esther Ages.

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Congratulations to Rafael and Ellen-Joy Fleming on the marriage of their son Mark to Akiko by Fran and Stan Ages.

**MARY AND ISRAEL (AL) ALLICE MEMORIAL FUND**  
In memory of Howard Goldberg by Beverly and Irving Swedko.

Mazel Tov to Sandy and Marvin Granatslein on the birth of their grandson Zev Alexander by Beverly and Irving Swedko.

Mazel Tov to Nadine and Jerry Weissman on the birth of their granddaughter Sasha Izabella by Beverly and Irving Swedko.

In memory of Bella Zelikow by Beverly and Irving Swedko.  
Wishing Annette Albert a r'luah sh'lemah by Beverly and Irving Swedko.

**EDWARD ASTROFF AND ARNIE ASTROFF MEMORIAL FUND**  
In memory of Doris Astroff by Marion and Myer Vexler.

**HARRY AND SONIA AGULNIK ENDOWMENT FUND**  
Mazel Tov to David and Dorothy Toronto on their special birthdays by Paula and Marny Agulnik and family.

**SAMUEL AND JEAN AKERMAN MEMORIAL FUND**  
In observance of the Yahrzeit of a dear mother and grandmother Jean Akerman by Sheila and Larry Hartman and family.

**ANNE AND LOUIS ARRON MEMORIAL FUND**  
Mazel Tov to Lisa and Fred Cogan on the birth of their grandson Mason by Daphne and Stanley Aron.

**RICKI AND BARRY BAKER ENDOWMENT FUND**  
In memory of Sydney Hartman by Ricki and Barry Baker and family.

**ABRAHAM AND RACHEL BAROOK MEMORIAL FUND**  
Best wishes to Cynthia Weinstein on her special birthday by Hy and Rose Roodman.

**DORIS AND JACK BAYLIN ENDOWMENT FUND**  
In observance of the Yahrzeit of a beloved mother and grandmother Doris Baylin by Shelly and Yossi Amor and family.

In memory of Harry Steinberg by Shelly and Yossi Amor and family.  
Wishing Annette Albert a r'luah sh'lemah by Shelly and Yossi Amor and family.

In memory of Philip Levenson by Honey and Jack Baylin.

**IRVING AND ESTHER BELLMAN MEMORIAL FUND**  
Mazel Tov to Elana and David Seligman on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Lawrence by Joyce and Seymour Bellman.

**SHIRLEY AND SHIER BERMAN FUND FOR OTTAWA JEWISH ARCHIVES**  
In memory of Gertrude Brodsky by Dawn Logan.

**JACOB AND BERTHA BODKMAN MEMORIAL FUND**  
In memory of Sydney Hartman by Lila and Abe Bookman and family.

Wishing Dr. David Feldman a r'luah sh'lemah by Millie and Percy Weinstein.

**TILLIE AND HARRY CHERM MEMORIAL FUND**  
In observance of the Yahrzeit of a loving mother Tillie Cherm by Donald Cherm.

Best wishes to Sol Kalman on his special birthday by Donald and Robert, and by Mollie Fine.

**JACK AND SARAH COGAN FAMILY FUND**  
In observance of the Yahrzeit of a dear father and grandfather Jack Cogan by Fred and Lisa Cogan and boys.

**EDWARD L. AND IRMA B. COHEN ENDOWMENT FUND**  
In memory of Sara Silverman by Edward and Irma Cohen.



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### A win-win strategy for estate planning

When it comes to estate planning, many people are torn between their wish to support charitable causes and their desire to maximize the inheritance they will give their children.

However, with the very lucrative tax benefits now involved in charitable giving, it is possible to fulfil both wishes - give a sizeable gift to charity without reducing your estate to your heirs.

Here is an example of a couple, Mr. and Mrs. Levine, both 69 years old. They would like to give a gift of \$100,000 to the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation to set up a fund in their name, if they could do this without reducing the estate they leave their children.

If they just left the \$100,000 in their will for their children to inherit, they would lose the potential tax credits they could receive from gifting it, and all earnings on the money would be taxable between now and when their children would receive it.

However, if they decided to give this money to their favourite charities through their Foundation fund, they would be eligible for a very large tax credit. Their tax saving would be approximately 43% of the gift!

One can only declare charitable donations up to 75% of one's net income. Thus the Levines' strategy is to split the donation between both spouses and take advantage of the ruling that they can carry forward any unused tax credits for the next five years.

They will receive approximately \$43,000 in tax saving they would not have received if they had just left the \$100,000 to their children.

They could then take the \$43,000 tax refund and purchase a joint last to die life insurance policy for \$200,000, making their children the beneficiaries of the policy. (The amount of the benefit will vary according to their health and smoking status.) Whenever they pass away, this money would be paid tax-free, to their children, and it would also avoid probate and executor fees.

Had they done nothing, the \$100,000 may have grown to approximately \$250,000 (assuming a seven percent return taxed at the top marginal rate and assuming as well that they would live at least 20 more years) and the

probate and executor taxes would reduce the amount their children would receive to approximately \$200,000.

If they gift the \$100,000 to the Foundation right now, they will have the nucleus of seeing their money help the charities they believe in during their lifetime. They will also know that their Foundation fund is invested in perpetuity and will continue supporting charity in their names even after they are gone. At the same time they will have the peace of mind of guaranteeing an inheritance of \$200,000 for their children, with no estate fees rendered.

It's a win-win situation - for the Levines, their children and the charities they want to support.

#### No Gift to Charity

\$100,000 grows to \$250,000 at time of death. Taxes payable reduce it to \$200,000. Heirs receive: \$200,000. Foundation receives: \$0.

#### Charitable Gift plus Life Insurance

\$100,000 gift to Foundation produces \$43,000 tax savings.

\$43,000 used to purchase \$200,000 life policy that pays tax-free proceeds to heirs. Heirs receive: \$200,000. Foundation receives: \$100,000 invested in perpetuity.

For more information about this or other planned giving strategies please call Foundation Executive Director Gordon Roston (798-4696, ext. 272).

Figures from the Ottawa Citizen, article by Doug Armistage of Berkshire Investment Group

#### New Funds

The Foundation is pleased to welcome the following new funds:

**The Mary and Israel (Al) Alice Memorial Fund** established by their children Beverly and Irving Swedko, Gordon and Myra Alice and Murray Alice.

**The Nap and Fanny Kapinsky Fund** as a bequest by the late Nap Kapinsky.

**The Shelly and Sid Rothman Family Fund** established by the Rothman's children, Stuart, Nina, P.J., and Marshall, in honour of their parents' 20th wedding anniversary.

Mazel Tov to Miriam Tepper on her Bar Mitzvah by Edward and Irma Cohen.

In memory of Michael Rubin by Edward and Irma Cohen.

Mazel Tov to Dr. Irvin Brodo on his retirement by Edward and Irma Cohen.

#### MAX AND MINNIE DRAZIN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Faye Drazin by Leah and Freda Steinman.

#### SEYMOUR AND EDNA EISENBERG ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Edna and Seymour Eisenberg.

#### CYNTHIA AND ABE ENGEL ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Cynthia and Abe Engel and family.

#### LILLIAN (HITZIG) FEIN MEMORIAL FUND

Wishing David Feldman a r'luah sh'lemah by Gerry and Barbara Thaw and family.

#### BENJAMIN AND FREDA FEINSTEIN ENDOWMENT FUND

Wishing Judy Wolfe's daughter Linda a speedy recovery by Pearl and David Moskovic.

#### LAWRENCE AND AUDREY FREIMAN CHOF SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Wishing Annette Albert a r'luah sh'lemah by Ruth and Hy Calol.

#### ALFRED AND KAYSA FRIEDMAN ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Alfred and Kaysa Friedman.

#### JACOB GLADSTONE MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of William "Bill" Goldenberg by Maury and Susan Kleinman.

#### STAN AND LIBBY GLUBE FAMILY FUND

Mazel Tov to Rose and Chick Taylor on the engagement of their son Steven to Audrey Arfi by Vera and Malcolm Glube.

#### ANN GLUZMAN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Cally and Sid Kardash.

#### IBOLYA AND HOWARD GOLDBERG FAMILY FUND

In memory of Howard Goldberg by Ibolya Goldberg and family; by Norina Malandra; by Allan Caplan and Carol Cowan; and by Rose and Chick Taylor.

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Ibolya Goldberg and family.

With sincere appreciation to Julie and Phil Weintraub by Ibolya Goldberg.

Mazel Tov to Dr. Alan and Marcia Kruger on the marriage of their son and with sincere appreciation by Ibolya Goldberg.

#### JEFFREY AND ENID GOULO FAMILY FUND

Congratulations to Dr. Bernie Dolensky on being the recipient of the Canadian Dental Association Award by Enid and Jeff Gould.

#### VICTOR AND RACHEL GOULD ENDOWMENT FUND

Best wishes to Rose Simon on her special birthday by Rachel Gould.

#### SARAH AND M. SIDNEY GREEN FAMILY FUND

Mazel Tov to Sarah Green on her special birthday by Howard and Carol Litwack.

#### GREENBERG FAMILIES LIBRARY FUND

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Roger Greenberg and Cindy Feingold and family.

#### MICHAEL GREENBERG MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Jocelyn and Stephen Greenberg.

#### NATHAN AND SARAH GREENBERG MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to Evelyn Greenberg on her birthday by Sam and Gert Budovitch.

In memory of Sarah "Sue" Levine by Sam and Gert Budovitch and family; and by Evelyn and Irving Greenberg.

#### REBECCA AND CHARLES GUSSMAN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Natalie and Tom Gussman.

In memory of Rosa Schildkraut by Natalie and Tom Gussman.

In memory of Frica Solomon by Natalie and Tom Gussman.

In memory of Howard Goldberg by Natalie and Tom Gussman.

In memory of William "Bill" Goldenberg by Natalie and Tom Gussman.

#### FRANCES HARTMAN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Rose and Hy Roodman.

#### LARRY AND SHEILA HARTMAN ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Jane and Bill James;

Continued on page 37



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by Sandy and Michael Shaver; by Valeria Nadelle; by Bess and Cassey Swedlow; by Judy and David Kain and family; by Janet and Norman Ironstone; by Russell and Joan Kronick; by Rebecca and Sam Halpern; and Celia Bookman; by Paula and Manny Agunlik and family; by Opal War and family; and by Philip Rainer, Jayme and Kayla.

### HILLEL ACADEMY ENDOWMENT FUND

Wishing Audrey Miller a speedy recovery by Rhoda and Jeff Miller, Howard and Sera.  
In memory of Yafra Bigler by Zelaine and Sol Shindor.

### HILLEL LODGE LEGACY FUND

In memory of Flora Solomon by Alyce and Allan Baker, and by Kayla and Alvin Malley.  
In memory of Sydney Hartman by Alyce and Allan Baker.  
Congratulations to Ashley Black on her Sweet Sixteen by Debbie, Sheldon, Samara and Jason Wiseman.  
Wishing Paul Brogman much success in Viva's new venture by Alyce Baker.

### DOROTHY AND HY HYMES ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Dorothy and Hy Hymes.

### JEWISH COMMUNITY OF OTTAWA SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Flora Solomon by Linda, Slovon, Jessica and Lorne Kerner.  
Mazel Tov to Phil Berman on the birth of his niece Deborah Anne by Linda Kerner.

### MAX AND DORA KAPINSKY KARP MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Nap Kapinsky by Rose and Chick Taylor.

### DAVID "THE BEAR" KARDASH CAMP B'NAI BRITH MEMORIAL FUND

In observance of the Yahrzeit of a beloved brother and special uncle David "The Bear" Kardash by Elie, Gary, Marla and Tova Greenberg.  
In memory of Cila Kaminsky by Elia, Gary, Marla and Tova Greenberg.  
Wishing Muriel Kardish well by Elie, Gary, Marla and Tova Greenberg.  
Wishing uncle Sam Kardish well by Elie, Gary, Marla and Tova Greenberg.

### ABRAHAM AND TZIPORA KARDASH MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to Rona Shalfran-Tannenbaum on being the recipient of the JFS Elaine Rabin Award by Rose and Chick Taylor.  
Mazel Tov to Rose and Chick Taylor on the engagement of their son Steven to Audrey Ari by Libby Lioff.

### ISRAEL AND EVA KARDISH ENDOWMENT FUND

Wishing Muriel Kardish well by Margo, David, Aaron and Gail Kardish.

### BENJAMIN AND LILLIAN KATZ MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Carolyn and Sid Katz.  
Elayna and Adam.  
In memory of William "Bill" Goldenberg by Carolyn and Sid Katz, Elayna and Adam.

### CLAIRE AND ABE KEVANSTEIN ENDOWMENT FUND

In observance of the Yahrzeit of a dear father and loving grandfather Louis Kevanshtein, 6th Tsevet, by Claire Kevanshtein and Sharon Harris.

### DR. ERWIN AND EDIE KOTANYI ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to Amen and Ruth Miller on the birth of their granddaughter by Edie and Erwin Koranyi.

### LILY AND MORRIS LANG ENDOWMENT FUND

Wishing Li Lang a ruah sh'lemah by Gert and Sam Budovitch.

### HARRY LEVIN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Syd Hartman by Libby and Stan Katz.  
Best wishes to Shanna Spielor on her birthday by Libby and Stan Katz.

### NATHAN AND LAURIE LEVITIN MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to Sol Kaiman on his special birthday by Miriam Levitin.

### ERNEST AND IDA LEVITZ MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Philip Lavenson by Gerry and Ingrid Levitz and family.  
In memory of Sydney Hartman by Gerry and Ingrid Levitz and family.  
Mazel Tov to Judd and Fred Ross on the birth of their grandson by the Levitz family.

### JOSEPH AND JEAN LICHTENSTEIN ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to Rhoda and Lawrence Zimman on the birth of their grandson Benjamin Stuart Kofsky by Barbara and Howard Geller, Erica and Lorne.  
In memory of Sam Machabanski by Barbara and Howard Geller, Erica and Lorne.

### JOSEPH AND EVELYN LIEFF ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Evelyn and Joseph Lieff.

### IRVING AND ELLEN LITWICK ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of William "Bill" Goldenberg by Elion Litwick.

### ABRAM AND EDITH MOLOT MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Howard Goldberg by Barbara Sugarman and Syd Kronick.  
In memory of Sydney Hartman by Barbara Sugarman and Syd Kronick.

### PEARL AND DAVID MOSKOVIC ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to Pearl and David Moskovic on their special birthdays by Myrna Park; by Benjamin Feinshtein; by Ruth and Irving Aaron; by Joyce Goldstein; by Iris and Frank Lomos; by Evelyn and Lou Eisenberg; by Rickio and Joe Looman; by Bevorley and Abo Feinshtein and family; by Harriet Brownstein; by Diana and Alvin Malomot; by Susan and Jonathan Fisher; by Alvin and Miri Dickstein; by Marion and Tony Aberg; by Rose and Chick Taylor; by Lillian and Mark Zundor; by Edith and Alfred Blims; by Howard and Ronce Blims; by Ruth and Myron Poplove; by Roselee Szotom and David Brownstein; by Ken Kavanat; and by Rose Kavanat.

### NANCY AND LARRY PLEET ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of William "Bill" Goldenberg by Nancy, Larry and Evan Ploot.

### BETTY AND DAVE POLOWIN ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Philip Lavenson by Rose and Chick Taylor.

### GOLDIE AND ALBERT RIVERS ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Howard Goldberg by Helen, Nathan, Alex and Catherine Rivers.

### MERIDA SACHS MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to Harold Sachs on his special birthday by Allen and Naomi Cracow, Michel and Jonathan; by Richard, Michelle and Hannah Sachs; by Sandy and Lawrence; and by Lyle and Shari Tolchman, Jennifer and Josh.

### DR. AND MRS. NATHAN SCHECHTER ENDOWMENT FUND

In observance of the Yahrzeit of a dear father Eliezer Schechter by Ann Schechter.  
In observance of the Yahrzeit of a dear sister Rebecca Golman by Ann Schechter.  
In observance of the Yahrzeit of a dear sister Sadie Cahn by Ann Schechter.

### SAMUEL AND LEA SCHREIBER MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to Rabbi Reuven and Naomi Bulke on the marriage of their son Eliezer by Riva and David Rotenberg.  
Wishing Abo Pizant a ruah sh'lemah by Riva and David Rotenberg.

### CLARE AND MAURICE SCHWARTZ ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Ruth Bazil by Clare Schwartz and David Kronick.

Kronick.

### HAROLD SHAFFER MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to Thora and Martin Giesburg in their new home by Frances Shaffer and Dorothy Shaffer.

### SYLVIA AND HARRY SHERMAN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Syd Hartman by Jack and Julie Shorman.

### HARRY AND SYLVIA SHINDER MEMORIAL FUND

Wishing Dr. Paul Custorori a speedy recovery by Ethel and David Malok; and by Audrey, Irwin, Sarah, Arielle and Joshua Kreisman.

### LESLIE AND LIONEL SHINDER MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to Brenda and Jason Levine on the birth of their daughter by Ethel and David Malok; by Zelaine and Sol Shindor; and by Audrey, Irwin, Sarah, Arielle and Joshua Kreisman.  
Mazel Tov to Bea and Joe Levine on the birth of their granddaughter by Zelaine and Sol Shindor.  
Mazel Tov to Jason and Jonnie Shinder on the birth of their niece by Zelaine and Sol Shindor.

### SOL AND ZELAINA SHINDER ENDOWMENT FUND

Best wishes to Zofana Shindor on her special birthday by Russell and Joan Kronick.

### LINDA SILVERMAN MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to Marvin and Phyllis Silverman on their special wedding anniversary by Shirley and Paul Seiler.

### MOE AND CHARLOTTE SLACK MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Ida Levitz by Marlene Levine and Andrew Siman.

### SAM AND SUE SLACK ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to Ann and Phil Morgenstern on the engagement.  
Continued on page 38

## In Appreciation

We would like to thank our family, friends and the entire Ottawa Jewish community for your expressions of sympathy, support, kind deeds, meals and charitable donations made in memory of our beloved and cherished Howard ("Howie") Goldberg <sup>21</sup>. With sincere appreciation,  
**Ibolya Goldberg, Shawn and Helene Goldberg, Julia, Sean and Noah Guttman and the Goldberg Family**

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ment of their daughter Tamara by Clara Slack.

### JACK AND LINDA SMITH ENDOWMENT FUND

Wishing Lou Eisenberg a ruach sh'leimah by Linda and Jack Smith.

In observance of the Yahrzeit of a loving mother Inez Smith by Leslie, Maureen, Aaron and Mischa Smith. Mazal Tov to Morris and Lilian Kimmel on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Jesse Levine by Jack and Linda Smith. Mazal Tov to Brenda and Nathan Levine on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Jesse by Jack and Linda Smith.

### LAURA AND GORDON SPERGER ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Lilian Gordon by Mark, Maria, Andrew, Samantha and Evan Spiegel.

### WILLIAM "BILL" STERNBERG MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of William "Bill" Goldenberg by Stephanie and Wayne Dancy.

### BESS AND CASEY SWEDLOVE ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazal Tov to Bess and Casey Swedlove on their 60th wedding anniversary by Irene Swedlove.

### TARANTUR FAMILY FUND

Best wishes to Ann Lazear on her special birthday by Selma Tarantur.

### CHARLES AND RAE TAVEL MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Sunny and John Tavel.

### CHARLES AND ROSE TAYLOR ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazal Tov to Heidi Polowin on her appointment to the Superior Court of Justice of Ontario by Rose and Chick Taylor.

In memory of Lawrence Cowan by Rose and Chick Taylor. In memory of Sydney Hartman by Rose and Chick Taylor. In memory of William "Bill" Goldenberg by Rose and Chick Taylor.

In memory of Ida Levitz by Rose and Chick Taylor. In memory of Hy Dubinsky by Rose and Chick Taylor.

Mazal Tov to Rhoda and Lawrence Zinnman on the birth of their grandson Benjamin Stuart Kofsky by Rose and Chick Taylor.

Mazal Tov to Liz and Jeff Kofsky on the birth of their son Benjamin Stuart by Rose and Chick Taylor.

### IRVING AND ETHEL TAYLOR ENDOWMENT FUND

Wishing Lil Dobrotsky a speedy recovery by Ethel and Irving Taylor.

Wishing Ethel and Irving Taylor a happy wedding anniversary by Harry and Esther Froman; and by Rose and Chick Taylor.

### SARA AND ZEEV VERED ISRAEL

#### CULTURAL PROGRAM ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazal Tov to Sara and Zeev Vered on the Bar Mitzvah of their granddaughter Jordana by Rose and Chick Taylor.

Mazal Tov to Liz and Amie Vered on the Bar Mitzvah of their daughter Jordana by Rose and Chick Taylor.

### STEPHEN AND GAIL VICTOR ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Ray Cutler by Gail and Stephen Victor.

### RUTH AND JOSEPH VINER ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazal Tov to Ruth and Joe Viner on their special birthdays by Estelle and John Liberman; by Clair and Julius Kranitzberg; by Phyllis and Marvin Silverman; by Gail and Stephen Victor; by Sara and Zeev Vered; by Diana and Alvin Malomel; by Ed and Fern Cohen; and by Ruth and Hy Calof.

In memory of Sydney Hartman by Ruth and Joe Viner.

### HARRY AND RAE WEIDMAN MEMORIAL FUND

Mazal Tov to Roz and Myles Teller on the marriage of their daughter Julia by Ruth and Hy Calof.

### BELLA ZELIKOW - HILLEL LODGE PHYSICAL THERAPY FUND

In memory of Bella Zelikow by Chick and Rose Taylor; and by Paula and Manny Agulnik and family.

### NATHAN, DAVID AND MAX ZELIKOVITZ FAMILIES FUND

Wishing Pauline Hochberg a ruach sh'leimah by Max Zelikowitz; and by Margo, David, Aaron and Gail Kardish.

Contributions may be made by phoning Kayla Melley at 798-4696 extension 274, Monday to Friday. We have voice mail. Our e-mail address is ojc@jccottawa.com. Attractive cards are sent to convey the appropriate sentiments. All donations are acknowledged with an official receipt for income tax purposes. We accept Visa and MasterCard.

## If you are thinking about going to Israel – Go!

By Gordon Allice

I am not in the habit of writing letters to editors of newspapers, but felt that I must write at this time.

My wife, Myra, and I have just returned from our first trip to Israel. We left Ottawa right after Yom Kippur, three days after Ariel Sharon went for his fateful walk. Something happened to me there that I cannot quite explain, but I felt such a closeness and a oneness with the land that I am planning to go back. My only regret is that I do not speak Hebrew, but I am now trying to learn.

Having lost my mother in March of this year, I had been going to shul twice a day to say Kaddish. Several months ago I had a vision that was to become a mission. I wanted to say Kaddish for my mother at the Wall. Nothing would stop me from fulfilling that wish.

As there were no Jewish-sponsored tours at the time we wanted to go, we took a non-Jewish tour. Myra and I were the only Jewish people on this tour that numbered 32.

The reason for this letter is to let you know that contrary to what you might see on TV, Israel is a safe place to visit. While there we toured from Tel Aviv to Tiberias. We went from Jerusalem to the Golan Heights and to the Lebanese-

Syrian border. We floated on the Dead Sea and took a cable car to the top of Masada. On Simchat Torah, I even danced in the streets of Jerusalem. We did all of the things that a tourist would do because our guide made it quite clear that he would not take us anywhere that might be dangerous.

People still shop in Jerusalem; they still walk on the outdoor cafés. The Israel Museum is packed with people. There are thousands of people on Dizengoff Street in Tel Aviv. People still take their dogs out for a walk; children still go to school; men and women still pray at the Kotel. Yes, you see a lot of soldiers. But don't you see the soldiers all the time?

I want to share two wonderful experiences with you. While out walking, we saw two little boys about four or five, behind an iron gate. They motioned for us to come in. We followed them down a lane which abruptly turned 90 degrees. We were now at their Succah, where a family of about 10 was seated at a table. The mother stood up and in my best Hebrew I asked if she spoke English. With a thick Boston accent she replied that she did and that she has been in Israel for 13 years.

She then invited us in to see her home. The doorway was very small and we had to bend down to enter. Once inside we marvelled. The house had a huge cathedral ceiling about 25 feet high and was about 900 years old, probably built in the time of the Crusaders. She explained that she had only recently added electricity and plumbing.

I wanted to take pictures but thought that this was her house and not a museum and decided to ask only when we were back outside. She chose not to be in the picture but suggested we take one of her husband and kids in the Succah. Myra stood with the family and I snapped the picture. Now, every time I look at it I am reminded of this lady's final words to us. Looking me straight in the eye she asked if I was scared to be in Israel at this time and then she thanked me for being there and showing my support for Israel. It meant a lot to her that we were not leaving them alone.

On another occasion, I shared an elevator ride with a young Israeli family. The husband and wife were probably mid-thirties and the kids five or six. As we got to the lobby the mother said something in English, and we spoke for a few minutes. Once again, I

was struck with her words. She thanked me for being in Israel at this troubled time, that it was so important to know that people are still visiting.

I have been told that tourism is the number one industry in Israel. Some of the kibbutzim no longer grow oranges and fruit, but have turned their land over to guest houses and resorts to accommodate the tourists. What happens if the tourists don't come?

I mentioned that our tour was not a Jewish-led tour. Apparently most of the Jewish tours (over 75%) have cancelled. While we were there we befriended some non-Jews touring from the States. They invited us to come with them one evening to hear Ehud Olmert, the mayor of Jerusalem. Another day we went and shook

hands and chatted with Ariel Sharon. Both times we were in a huge Conference Center that seated several thousand people, Gentiles not Jews. Both men thanked these people for being in Israel at this time. I felt good being in Israel, but sad that Myra and I were probably the only Jewish people in the audience.

One day they closed off some of Jerusalem's downtown streets for a march. Thousands of Christians, representing over 100 countries, including Canada, marched through the streets of Jerusalem, waving Israeli flags and the flags of their respective countries. All showing their support for Israel.

We were one of the last tour groups to leave, after Simchat Torah. We had stayed at the Renaissance

Hotel in Jerusalem which has about 650 rooms. As we were leaving they were closing up one wing, moving people over to another wing and laying off about half of their staff. I assume this happened at most hotels. I read recently that the Sheraton had closed its hotels in Tel Aviv and Tiberias and the one in Jerusalem was open only four days a week.

I had so many wonderful experiences in Israel; to say Kaddish for my mother at the Wall was the highlight of my tour. The message that I would like to get across is that if you are thinking of going to Israel – Go. If you are not even thinking of going – think about it. It will mean a lot to all of us.

At the end of the Seder we say, "Next year in Jerusalem." Why wait until next year? Do it now.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY CALENDAR

(Continued from page 40)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27	THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29	SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31
	Winter Camp, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, December 26-29 and January 2-5, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Friday closing: 3:30 p.m.) Talmud Classes with Rabbi Botnick, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 7:00 p.m.	Mitzvah Knitters: The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, 2:00 p.m. The Miracle Begins Group of Narcotics Anonymous, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 8:00 p.m.	 EIGHTH CHANUKAH LIGHT	Noah's Ark Drop-In Shabbat, Jewish Youth Library, 192 Switzer Avenue, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.  EIGHTH DAY OF CHANUKAH  CANDLELIGHTING BEFORE 4:10 PM		Jewish Mysticism with Rabbi Botnick, Jewish Youth Library, 192 Switzer Avenue, 10:15 a.m. Ottawa Jewish Film Society presents A Kiss to this Land, Mexico, 1994, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, 3:00 p.m. Talmud Study Group For Men, Machzikei Hadas Congregation, 2310 Virginia Drive, 8:00 p.m.
MONDAY, JANUARY 1	TUESDAY, JANUARY 2	WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3	THURSDAY, JANUARY 4	FRIDAY, JANUARY 5	SATURDAY, JANUARY 6	SUNDAY, JANUARY 7
	Talmud Classes with Rabbi Botnick, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 7:00 p.m.	Mitzvah Knitters, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, 2:00 p.m. The Miracle Begins Group of Narcotics Anonymous, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 8:00 p.m.	Shoah Remembrance Committee and Israeli Embassy present "Visa for Life". Opening night reception and viewing of exhibit, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. (Exhibit continues until January 14.)	Noah's Ark Drop-In Shabbat, Jewish Youth Library, 192 Switzer Avenue, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.   CANDLELIGHTING BEFORE 4:17 PM		Jewish Mysticism with Rabbi Botnick, Jewish Youth Library, 192 Switzer Avenue, 10:15 a.m. Talmud Study Group For Men, Machzikei Hadas Congregation, 2310 Virginia Drive, 8:00 p.m.
MONDAY, JANUARY 8	TUESDAY, JANUARY 9	WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10	THURSDAY, JANUARY 11	FRIDAY, JANUARY 12	SATURDAY, JANUARY 13	SUNDAY, JANUARY 14
The Soloway Jewish Community Centre Friendship Club Luncheon, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, noon.	Talmud Classes with Rabbi Botnick, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 7:00 p.m.	Mitzvah Knitters, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, 2:00 p.m. The Miracle Begins Group of Narcotics Anonymous, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 8:00 p.m. Shira Ottawa Rehearsal, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, 9:00 p.m.		Noah's Ark Drop-In Shabbat, Jewish Youth Library, 192 Switzer Avenue, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.   CANDLELIGHTING BEFORE 4:25 PM		Jewish Mysticism with Rabbi Botnick, Jewish Youth Library, 192 Switzer Avenue, 10:15 a.m. Grenberg Families Library Story Time, Topic: Shabbat, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, 10:30 a.m. Ganon PreSchool: Bagels and Books Drop-In Program, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, 11:30 a.m. Talmud Study Group For Men, Machzikei Hadas Congregation, 2310 Virginia Drive, 8:00 p.m.
MONDAY, JANUARY 15	TUESDAY, JANUARY 16	WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17	THURSDAY, JANUARY 18	FRIDAY, JANUARY 19	SATURDAY, JANUARY 20	SUNDAY, JANUARY 22
 The Centre of Your Life The Soloway Jewish Community Centre Friendship Club, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, noon.	Talmud Classes with Rabbi Botnick, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 7:00 p.m. Soloway Jewish Community Centre Lecture: Topic: Profiles of Women in Our Community, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, 7:30 p.m.	Mitzvah Knitters, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, 2:00 p.m. Special Parsha Class, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 7:00 p.m. The Miracle Begins Group of Narcotics Anonymous, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 8:00 p.m. Shira Ottawa Rehearsal, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, 9:00 p.m.	Men's Leadership Development Program, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, 7:00 p.m.	Noah's Ark Drop-In Shabbat, Jewish Youth Library, 192 Switzer Avenue, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.   CANDLELIGHTING BEFORE 4:34 PM	Parenting Series, Ecole Malmouides, 25 Esquimaux Avenue, 7:00 p.m.	Jewish Mysticism with Rabbi Botnick, Jewish Youth Library, 192 Switzer Avenue, 10:15 a.m. Camp Kad'mah Rally, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, 11:00 a.m. Soloway Jewish Community Centre Art Lecture, Topic: The Created Memories of Charlotte Salomon, Lecture: Art Historian Christine Conley, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadohly Sachs Private, 2:00 p.m. Talmud Study Group For Men, Machzikei Hadas Congregation, 2310 Virginia Drive, 8:00 p.m.

**ottawa jewish bulletin**





Readers and advertisers are advised that this is the last edition of the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* for 2000.

The next edition will be published on Monday, January 22, 2001.

The deadline date is Wednesday, January 3, 2001.

# Happy Chanukah!

# JEWISH COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13	THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15	SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17
 <p><b>The Centre of Your Life</b> The Soloway Jewish Community Centre Friendship Club, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadelny Sachs Private, noon.</p> <p>JET, Hebrew Reading Crash Course, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadelny Sachs Private, 8:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Parent/Teacher Conferences, Hillel Academy, 31 Nadelny Sachs Private, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Talmud Classes with Rabbi Botnick, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Men's Leadership Development Program, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadelny Sachs Private, 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Mitzvah Knitters, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadelny Sachs Private, 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>Shira Ottawa Rehearsal, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadelny Sachs Private, 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>The Miracle Begins Group of Narcotics Anonymous, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 8:00 p.m.</p>	 <p>Jet, Jewish Living, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Noah's Ark Drop-In Shabbat, Jewish Youth Library, 192 Switzer Avenue, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.</p> <p> <b>CANDLELIGHTING BEFORE 4:02 PM</b></p>	<p>Beth Shalom, Beth Shalom West, Agudath Israel Congregation, Congregation Machzikel Hades, Temple Israel, Adath Shalom, Chanukah Ball, 151 Chapel Street, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Jet, Family Havdalah Night, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadelny Sachs Private, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Jewish Mysticism with Rabbi Botnick, Jewish Youth Library, 192 Switzer Avenue, 10:15 a.m.</p> <p>Greenberg Families Library Story Time, Topic: Chanukah, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadelny Sachs Private, 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Chanukah Talent Show, Ecole Maimonides, 25 Esplanade Avenue, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Shira Ottawa Rehearsal, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadelny Sachs Private, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation, Annual Chanukah Party, featuring "A Touch of Klez", Rio Vista Apartment Building, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Talmud Study Group For Men, Machzikel Hades Congregation, 2310 Virginia Drive, 8:00 p.m.</p>
MONDAY, DECEMBER 18	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20	THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22	SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
<p>The Soloway Jewish Community Centre Friendship Club, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadelny Sachs Private, noon.</p>	<p>Talmud Classes with Rabbi Botnick, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Canadian Volunteers for Israel Information Night, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadelny Sachs Private, 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Mitzvah Knitters, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadelny Sachs Private, 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>The Miracle Begins Group of Narcotics Anonymous, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>Shira Ottawa Rehearsal, The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadelny Sachs Private, 6:30 p.m.</p>	 <p><b>FIRST CHANUKAH LIGHT</b></p>	<p>Noah's Ark Drop-In Shabbat, Jewish Youth Library, 192 Switzer Avenue, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>FIRST DAY OF CHANUKAH</b> <b>CANDLELIGHTING BEFORE 4:05 PM</b></p>	<p>Annual Chanukah Celebration with the Ottawa Torah Centre and the City of Nepean, Ben Franklin Place, 101 Centrepoina Drive, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Jewish Mysticism with Rabbi Botnick, Jewish Youth Library, 192 Switzer Avenue, 10:15 a.m.</p> <p>Chabad of Ottawa-Carleton Annual Public Menorah Lighting, Carlingwood Mall, 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>Family Chanukah Party, Beth Shalom Congregation, 151 Chapel Street, 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Talmud Study Group For Men, Machzikel Hades Congregation, 2310 Virginia Drive, 8:00 p.m.</p>

Calendar continues on page 39

This information is taken from the community calendar maintained by the Soloway Jewish Community Centre. Organizations which would like their events to be listed, no matter where they are to be held, should make sure they are recorded by Brenda Schafer, calendar co-ordinator at 798-9818 extension 265. We have voice mail. Accurate details must be provided. You may fax to 798-9839.



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Condolences are extended to the families of:

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Esther Cohen

Fella Cook, Toronto (mother of Eddy Cook)

Libby Sarna-Derevensky, Montreal (mother of Aaron Sarna)

Eva Epstein

Cila Kaminsky

Nancy Leibovitch

Sarah Max

Miriam Zipes, Montreal (mother of Rick Zipes)

May their memories be a blessing.

The Condolence Column is offered as a public service to the community. There is no charge.

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